


NINETEEN

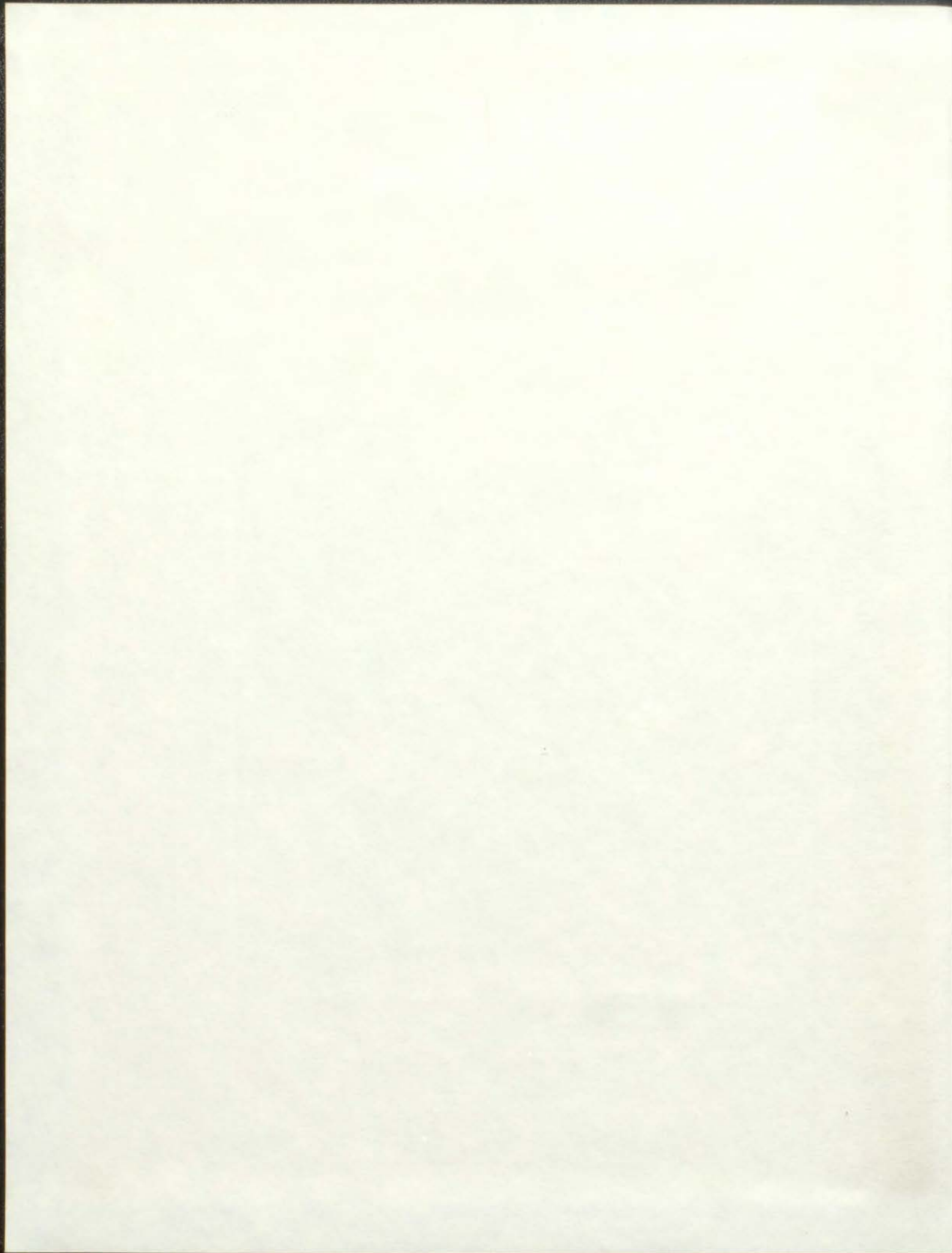
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Making  an

IMPRESSION

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NINETEEN  
FELTON WRIGHT



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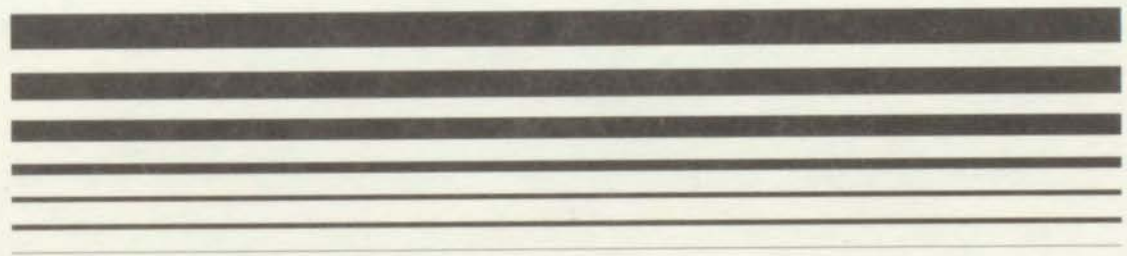
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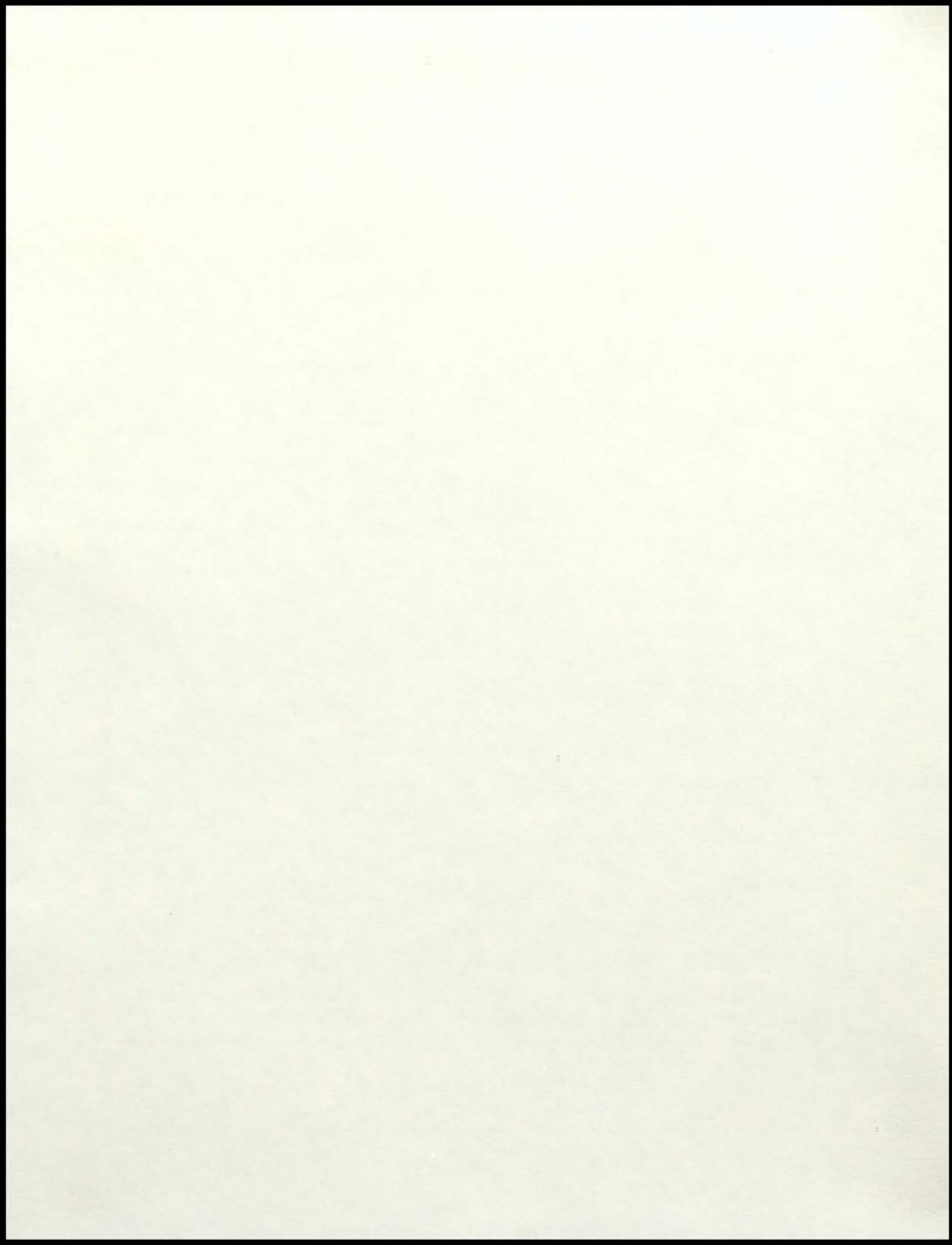
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*Making*   
*an* **IMPRESSION**

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# Making An Impression

Center Senior High School  
8715 Holmes • Kansas City, MO 64131  
School Population • 716  
1997 Yellowjacket • Volume 61



An unexpected October snow storm took Kansas City by surprise. Trees - still full with Fall foliage, snapped off under the weight of eight inches of wet snow. Thousands were left without electricity, phone service and cable television for several days. Yearbook photographer Rebecca Piggee took the opportunity to catch the beauty of the unseasonable snow. Impressions were left in the snow, as well as on students, by the subtle reminder from Mother Nature, that life is never certain.

*Photo By: Rebecca Piggee*

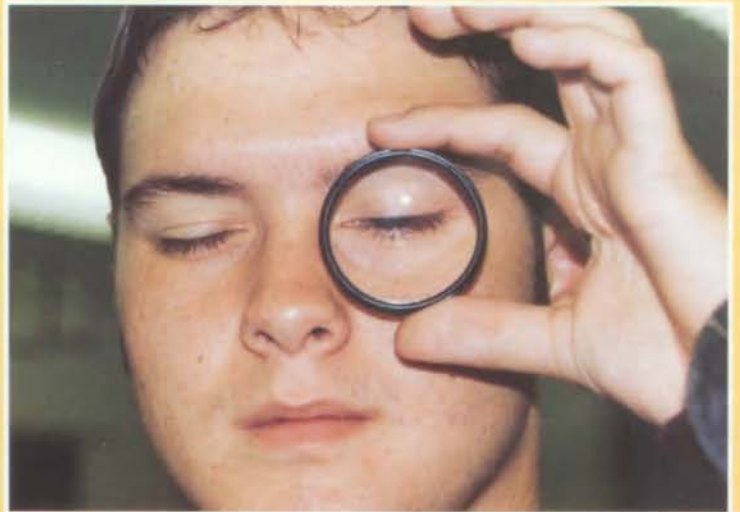
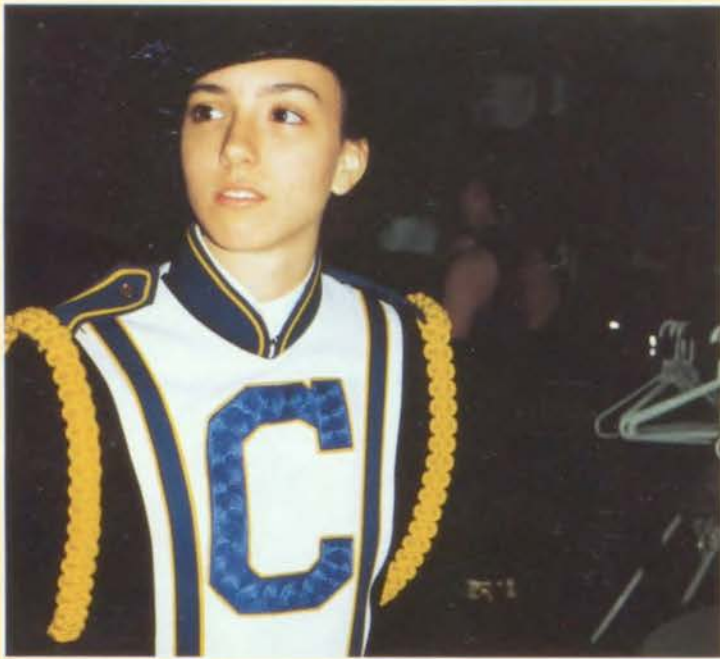


Junior Lea Corrison stands and waits for the order to move on the field. Corrison said, "Band is fun, but also a lot of hard work."

*Photo By Lisa Strommen*

Josh Patterson, senior, opens his eyes to a new level of vision. Patterson said it was the best way to take in lasting impressions.

*Photo By Lisa Strommen*



Eric Lau, senior, plays the quads at a football game. The drum line performance was always a popular part of the game.

*Photo By Lisa Strommen*



Several Center students choose to make an impression through their spirituality. On one designated day out of the year, students from schools all over the world met around their schools' flag poles to pray for their school and community.

*Photo By Josh Howard*



Senior Madison Smart proudly displays his CHS letter jacket. This is one way for students to save those precious memories, as well as make an impression with their accomplishments.

*Photo By: Lisa Simpson*

# Making an Impression

On September 3, students eagerly poured through the double doors of Center Senior High, ready to get down to business for at least the next nine months. While entering the building, many students were unaware of the impact they would have upon the staff, faculty, administration and each other. They were equally unaware of the impact others would have upon them.

New rules and expectations abounded. Students not only had to be on time to class, but they were also expected to do hours of homework every night.

Other changes included several new teachers and a new principal, Brian Schumann, who always seemed to have time for the students.

Changes were made academically, like continuing work on the A+ Program, which encouraged academic excellence and offered the opportunity for free college tuition and books. Teachers worked hard to improve scholarship in the classroom and to raise Missouri Mastery Achievement Test scores.

Fast food was always popular with students, and the new Sonic on Bannister Road, just a few blocks from school, seemed to get everyone's attention. Junior Robin Greer was excited about the new hangout, mainly because it meant employment for her.

"I like working at Sonic," Greer said. "It's a good way to meet people, plus I get good tips."

One of the most important changes was one of zero tolerance. Administrators and faculty stressed that students were expected to be in class on time and ready to learn. Fights and other disruptions were kept to a minimum. Fewer discipline problems were noted than in previous years.

In addition to the zero-tolerance policy, for the first time, school doors were locked after first hour. The new policy was made to keep outsiders from the building, and to keep the school safer. Locking the doors also discouraged students from roaming outside to "skip" an hour or two.

Senior Billee Runnels said that although some of the new rules were more strict, more learning seemed to take place with fewer distractions.

Students began to take more responsibility both for their personal and academic futures. They continued to look up and onward. Students at Center wanted to leave a mark. Time had come for them to make an impression.

*Design By: Heidi Hamilton-Brake  
Copy By: Daniece Moreland*



Seniors Jasmine Griffith and Sonya Baughman wait to get on a plane. Students took advantage of vacation days to travel.

*Photo By: Lisa Simpson*

Senior Chris Berry and Junior Derek White study for their Technology Communications class. Careers were plentiful in the technological field, so students prepared by enrolling in courses that would train them for college or a job.

*Photo By: Lisa Simpson*





### TIME OUT!

Drill Team members Sophomores Melissa Youngblood, Kelly Warner and Teresa Self, along with Junior Amy Loss and Freshman Ashley Cashan snuggle up during a break from dancing. The Drill Team performed during every home football game.

*Photo By: Jessica Brooks*



### MAKING THE GRADE

Freshman Jeff Hill works hard on an assignment in his English class. Classwork and homework, however unpopular, was still a part of student life.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



### MAKIN' FACES

Senior Eric Lau takes time out from being a serious senior to act silly. Although they are the leaders of the school, seniors still liked to let loose and have some fun.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*

### GO TEAM, GO!

Seniors Josh Gwilt and Paul Lillis show enthusiastic school spirit. Games, pep assemblies and activities all seemed more energized when school spirit was boldly displayed.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*





# LEAVING OUR MARK

Life outside of school varied from student to student - from those who worked, to those who shopped. But in every aspect of student life, marks were being left and impressions were being made.

Although being a student was a time to live at home off of mom and dad's money, enjoying life to the fullest, having a job was a necessary evil for many students.

"Working at Steve's Shoes was fun for the most part. It was a source of income, but not a career choice. There is not a limit to the amount of money you can spend when it is yours," said Senior LaSonia Ford.

Making a mark through fashion was always vogue, and fashion definitely said a lot about each person's personality.

"My style of dress is a combination of casual and dressy," said Senior Martina McHenry, who loves boutiques. McHenry said she lives by the motto, "An outfit does not make you, you make the outfit."

Transportation was also very important to high school students. They loved the ability to get up and go. They dreamed of getting their driver's licence. One student felt that being on the road somehow made everyone equal. Along with this dream, came the desire to own one's own car - hopefully at the expense of one's parents. Others had to work extra jobs to pay their car and insurance payments. Others simply had to do without or bum rides from friends.



## STUDYING THE CLASSICS!?

Faking out the teacher is not one of Junior Craig Robison's stronger points. He pretends to be engrossed in Arthur Miller's *The Crucible*. English teachers strove to improve students' writing and reading skills through reading the classics and participating in reflective writing.

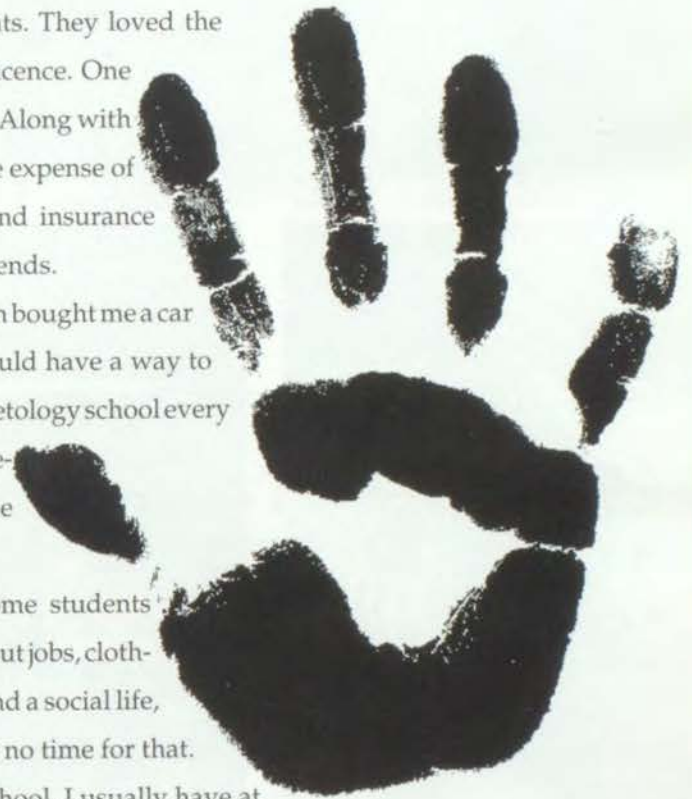
Photo By: Lisa Sorensen

"My mom bought me a car so that I would have a way to get to Cosmetology school every day," said Senior Jenise Jones.

While some students worried about jobs, clothing, work and a social life, others have no time for that.

"After school, I usually have at least three hours of homework before I get ready for the next day, so I do not have time to do anything else," said Senior Cherie Brown.

Center hosts students with a variety of differences, but no matter where students were or what they were doing, they all seemed to be striving to leave their mark.



Design By: Heidi Hamilton-Brake  
Copy By: Daniece Moreland



Juniors Melissa Mattingly and Yvette Canady sport the latest styles in casual wear. Comfortable T-shirts and cut-off shorts were a favorite when relaxation was the goal.

*Photo By: Marissa Wash*



Senior Josh Gwilt sees both advantages and disadvantages to sporting an unusual hairstyle. "It's easy for people to recognize me, but without my hair style, no one would know who I was," he said.

*Photo By: Marissa Wash*



Athletic attire to show support for a favorite team is seen often in the hallways. North Carolina is a common favorite, as modeled by Junior John Perkins.

*Photo By: Marissa Wash*



Seniors Kevin Hill and Josh Patterson sport the latest in Tommy. Tommy was popular due to its sophisticated, yet casual style.

*Photo By: Marissa Wash*



Mike Riley, senior, expresses his own sense of style through his unique hair style. "Anything goes" was the guideline when it came to hair. Students wore every style, from the extreme to the ordinary.

Photo By: Marissa Wash

Chiefs wear is worn by Junior John Strosnider. Chiefs apparel was very popular with a school full of fans hoping for the Kansas City team to do a repeat performance of the 95-96 season, when the Chief's lost only three regular-season games. However, the city's collective heart was broken when the Chiefs failed to make the playoffs.

Photo By: Marissa Wash



Crystal Koenig, senior, dons her T-shirt and flannel. The baggy, grunge look was popular with high-school students due to the relaxed style and comfort.

Photo By: Marissa Wash



## STYLIN' IN THE LATEST FASHIONS

### IN THE HALLWAYS, IMAGE IS EVERYTHING

"What am I going to wear today?"

This is a question many students asked themselves each morning. Deciding what to wear was sometimes a difficult decision. Students were fully aware clothing was often a reflection of the way they were seen by others.

Many different styles were seen in the hallways every day, including preppy, grunge, casual and trendy.

Two of the most common manners of dress were preppy and grunge - complete fashion opposites. The preppy dressers generally wore in designer clothes, while the grunge dressers usually wore flannel or a T-shirt with baggy jeans with a chain hanging down one leg.

"I dress the way I do because it's how I feel and it looks nice," said Senior Ivan Masterson.

Students also dressed the

way they did for the simple fact that the fashion style they chose reflected their mood and also showed individuality.

Junior Lauren Lewendowski said, "How I dress in the morning depends on how I feel when I wake up. If I'm in a good mood, I'll dress preppy, if not, I'll dress down a little."

Students' manner of dress was also influenced by friends.

"I feel the crowd you run around with plays a very big part in the way you dress, as well as the way you act and talk," said English Teacher Cookie Douglas.

Whatever style chosen, comfort seemed to be an important consideration. However, through each style, individuality was shown and attitude was subtly expressed.

Design By: Jessica Brooks  
Copy By: Josh Patterson



# WORKIN' HARD

## PAYING FOR THE NECESSITIES

Why in the world did many students wake up early each and every Saturday morning?

Well, some still wanted to watch those Saturday - morning cartoons. Others found themselves stumbling out of bed to go to work.

Teenagers joined the work force for several reasons. Some did because their friends were working, too.

Senior John Watson was one such person.

"Sean Hazel worked at Patrikios and he asked me to apply for a job there. I did and I got the job," Watson said.

For other students, work-

ing, in addition to school and other activities, created a lot of stress.

Junior Lori Conrad said she had so much to do that she didn't have much free time.

"After two jobs - one at a day care and another at a dance studio - along with drill team practice and school work, I don't have much time for a social life. It can get extremely stressful at times," said Conrad.

A few students agreed that the old standby - baby-sitting - was a low-stress way to make money.

"Regular jobs require too much time and commit-

ment," said Sophomore Heather Johnson.

Junior Kim Grimes said she needed a job, and baby-sitting was the answer.

"I don't have a car, so I can't work far from home. I baby-sit for the children in my neighborhood," she said.

Eddie Smith, senior, said he earned \$5.50 an hour working at J. Riggins. However, he said he received more than just a paycheck from his job.

"Through working, I learned how to be responsible," he said.

*Design By: Jessica Brooks*

*Copy By: Ashley Prater*



**F**reshman Rashawnda Walker and Sophomore Jason Sparks earn money for the necessities by working at Dairy Queen. Cars and a social life were difficult to manage without a weekly paycheck.

*Photo By: Marissa Wash*





**J**unior Kachina Griffith and Sophomore Amber Griffith work hard to treat customers right at Dairy Queen. Fast food work, although not a career choice for most, was an easy way to make money according to the Griffiths.

*Photo By: Marissa Wash*

**R**oshanna Perkins, junior, assists a customer in choosing shoes at Lady Footlocker in Bannister Mall. A good salary and discount prices were incentives to seek employment at retail stores for many.

*Photo By: Daniece Moreland*





**Rudiana Frazier**  
**Job:** Gift Shop Cashier  
**Where:** Kansas City Zoo  
**Duration:** Two Years  
**Wage:** \$6.90 per hour  
**Job Description:** Greets customers, does stock, calls orders, does referrals for other stores, cleans up at closing

**“** Working at the K.C. Zoo is a great way to meet new people, an easy way to make money and it's really fun, also. **”**

*Senior Rudina Frazier* **”**

**S**ophomore Judah Schad prepares pizza dough for Sbarro's in Ward Parkway Food Court. Food service was a popular job choice for teenagers.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*

# ON THE MAIN STAGE

## VARIETY OF CONCERTS SATISFISY AUDIENCES

A wide variety of bands invaded Kansas City during the summer of 1996, from 311 to Three Dog Night.

"The summer's concerts were cool because you could hear any kind of music you wanted," said Sophomore Molly Gillespie.

Senior Sara Weilert agreed.

"One night there were both alternative and rhythm and blues groups playing on the same night," she said, referring to *The Smokin' Grooves Tour* and *The JayHawk Music Festival*.

*The Smokin' Grooves Tour* featured groups such as The Fugees, Cypress Hill, A Tribe Called Quest and others. *The JayHawk Music Festival*, an annual

event, included alternative acts such as Poe, The Urge and Violent Femmes.

**"Everybody comes together for one purpose and that is to have fun."**

*Junior Tiffany Minx*

Junior Tiffany Minks said she loved the concert atmosphere.

"Everybody came together for one purpose and that was to have fun," she said.

While concert-goers had a lot of fun, members of bands worked hard

to achieve status and make an impression on their audience.

"Starting a band is very time consuming," said band member Senior Josh Howard. One group in particular was Noel. Noel was made up of Seniors Ethan Jordan and Howard, among others.

Junior Zach Sage was also in a band, known as Standing Room Only.

"I hope we make it to the stage. A first act would be nice," Sage said.

One may want to keep a look out for local groups like Noel and Standing Room Only on the main stage.

*Design By: Lauren Stewart  
Copy By: Rebecca Piggee*



Being in a band means a lot of time spent signing autographs and talking to fans. For Mat Morginsuit, of the Orange County Supertones, this was often the case. "I always enjoy talking with our fans, it lets me know how real people view us," he said.

*Photo By: Josh Howard*

Allegiance to a certain band is displayed in many ways. For Sophomore Judah Schad, a T-shirt was the method of choice. Band T-shirts were usually decorated with the band's theme and name. Schad's shirt advertises the British band Oasis over a swirled British flag.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



Students often traveled great distances to see their favorite bands perform live. This Newsboys concert held just outside of Portland, Oregon brought people together from all over the States. Some students felt that the number of miles covered didn't matter when it came to hearing the live sounds of that special group.

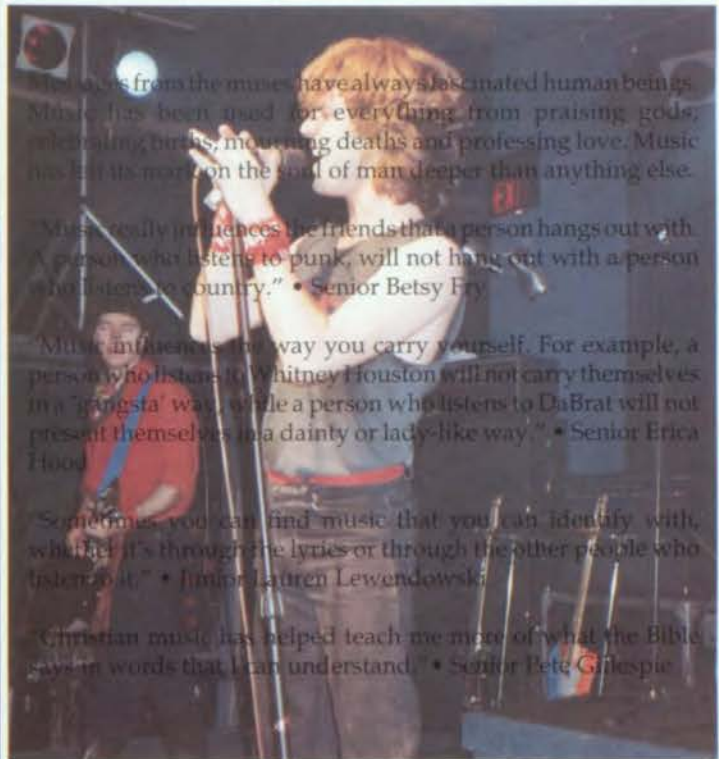
*Photo By: Josh Howard*



Crowd participation was the key element of fun at concerts for many. Ways of participating ranged from crowd surfing and moshing in the pit, to simply singing along and waving one's arms around, as exhibited by the crowd at the ShoFar 1996 Music Festival held outside of Joplin.

*Photo By: Josh Howard*

# MUSIC LEAVES ITS MARK



Stories from the muses have always fascinated human beings. Music has been used for everything from praising gods, celebrating births, mourning deaths and professing love. Music has left its mark on the soul of man deeper than anything else.

"Music really influences the friends that a person hangs out with. A person who listens to punk, will not hang out with a person who listens to country." • Senior Betsy Fry

"Music influences the way you carry yourself. For example, a person who listens to Whitney Houston will not carry themselves in a 'gangsta' way, while a person who listens to DaBrat will not present themselves in a dainty or lady-like way." • Senior Erica Hood

"Sometimes you can find music that you can identify with, whether it's through the lyrics or through the other people who listen to it." • Junior Lauren Lewendowski

"Christian music has helped teach me more of what the Bible says in words that I can understand." • Senior Pete Gillespie

The Rainmakers was a Kansas City band that made it big in the late 1980s with their hits "Downstream" and "Let My People Go". The band - all original members, minus the bass player - broke up in 1990, but reunited in 1996. Their latest CD was released in early 1997.

*Photo By: Kathy Yates*

Center students enjoy a concert given by the local band, Noel during a birthday party for Senior Josh Howard. Howard, who was a guitarist in the band, enjoyed each chance to perform.

*Photo By: Jake Howard*



Concentrating on remembering his up-coming bass-guitar solo, Senior Josh Howard rehearses with his band, Noel. Howard said that hours and hours of practice was required to be even a mediocre band, and that in order to be really good, whole days needed to be dedicated to developing skills.

*Photo By: Josh Highfill*

Lunch time often offers a good opportunity for couples to converse with one another. Sophomores Mike McCrory and Regan Townsend sit together to share a moment and a bite to eat. Lunch was the largest block of time some couples got to spend together all day.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*

Senior Mike Weiland and Freshman Morgan Ridgeway find time during a passing period to talk briefly. Most couples who did not share a class relied on time in the hallway to communicate with one another.

*Photo By: Josh Howard*



Summer flings are a part of dating that some students dislike. However, some students, such as Junior Lauren Stewart, felt that a short relationship was a great way to pass the summer months.

*Photo By: Ashley Prater*

Seniors Jessica Brooks and Eddie Smith take time for a trip together during the summer. Trips together helped build stronger relationships and created fond memories of one another. Parents also took advantage of this time to get to know their son or daughter's significant other.

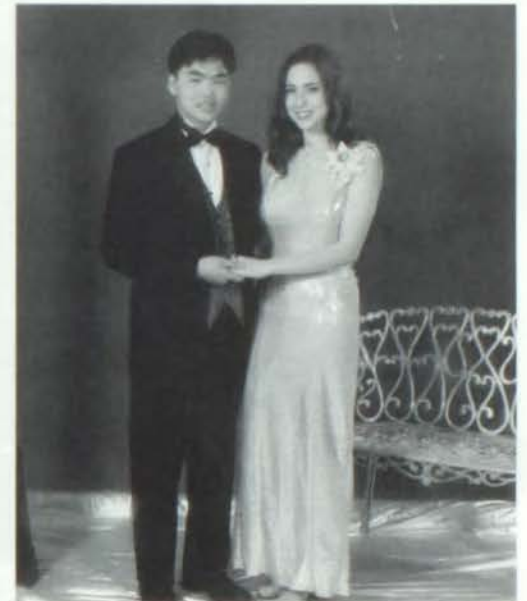
*Photo By: Ron Brooks*







Long-distance relationships prove challenging for some couples. For Senior Heidi Hamilton-Brake, being able to go to Prom in San Antonio with her boyfriend Danny Luong, was a highlight of her year. According to Hamilton-Brake, the small amount of time she and Luong spent together, helped them appreciate their relationship more.



# DATE ANXIETY

## FIRST DATE IMPRESSIONS LINGER

First dates did not always go picture-perfect like in the movies. Sometimes they were enough to make one's nerves jump.

Freshman Lindsey Weaver thought so.

"My first date was kind of nerve wracking because I had no clue what to expect," she said.

Weaver was not alone.

Junior Shannon Higgins elaborated.

"My first date was filled with anxiety, but it was fun at the same time," she said.

First dates were fun but mysterious to many, including Sopho-

more Jeff Douglas.

"First dates are kind of like a box of chocolates. You don't know what kind of a night you're in for because it's the first time you're alone with your girlfriend or boyfriend," said Douglas.

Senior Danience Moreland reminisced about her first date.

"It was crazy. First, I couldn't get into the movie my date and I were going to see because I was under age. So my date and I decided to get something to eat. We went to Burger King and his car broke

down. I had to call my mother to come and get us. It was rather embarrassing. Looking back on it, I can laugh though," Moreland said.

While first dates can be stressful due to anxiety and anticipation, Senior Curtis Green felt dating was worth all the stress and trouble.

"First dates leave lasting impressions and you'll always have something to look back on," he said.

*Design By: Lauren Stewart  
Copy By: Rebecca Piggee*



Taking a break from sight-seeing, Junior Heather Erickson takes time to relax with her new friend in Rothenburg, Germany. Erickson and Karen Barnard, from Archie, toured with Missouri Ambassadors of Music.

*Photo Donated By Heather Erickson*



While in Munich, Deutschland, many exchange students toured Frauenkirche (Church of our Lady). According to Junior Lisa Sorensen, European architecture offered some interesting subjects for photography.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



The Canal system in Venice, Italy is a world-famous means of transportation. The touring Yellowjackets experienced many forms of transportation while in Europe, including rail, air and boat.

*Photo By: Heather Erickson*



The Eiffel Tower serves as a major tourist site in Paris. Junior Heather Erickson said she enjoyed traveling around Europe while on tour with the Missouri Ambassadors of Music.

*Photo By: Heather Erickson*



# NEW FACES A NEW PERSPECTIVE

## CULTURAL DIVERSITY OPENS EYES

Center's foreign exchange program provided a rare experience for German Club members in June. Members experienced the German culture first hand - with a tour of the country.

"I thought that the experiences in Germany were great," said Senior Eric Lau.

Many Center students went into the foreign country with many questions - this was the first time out of the United States for most of them. They quickly learned, however, that whatever their questions, communication was difficult because of their

limited German-speaking abilities.

"Communication was somewhat difficult, but it (communicating in Germany) helped with our speaking skills for the future," said Senior Jasmine Griffith.

Through planned outings, students tried to capture what being a German teenager would be like. These trips ranged from tours of museums to dinner excursions. As Center students journeyed throughout Germany, they discovered some similarities existed

between Germany and the United States.

"We all enjoyed listening to music and being with our friends," said Junior Lisa Sorensen.

When the fun and activities came to an end, much knowledge and many memories were brought back home.

"I have so many good memories of the new people I met in Germany that I keep in my heart," said Senior Crystal Koenig.

Closer to home, the Student Government Association sponsored student exchanges with

local schools. Schools like Shawnee Mission North and St. Thomas Aquinas were involved.

Whether local or over seas, students felt the exchange program expanded their knowledge of life and especially of other cultures.

"It was interesting to see how other schools carry out their every-day lives," said Senior Josh Howard.

*Design By: Jessica Brooks  
Copy By: Dana Battin*



While on tour in Germany, Junior Eric John and Seniors Kori Crawford and Crystal Koenig pause to enjoy and photograph a fountain. Photography was a way students preserved the memory of the trip.

*Photo Donated By: Eric John*



# FREEDOM ON WHEELS

## INDEPENDENCE GAINED

Porche. BMW. Jaguar. According to most students, these were dream cars.

"I wouldn't mind having a BMW or a Porche, but for now I have to settle for an older car," said Senior Kyna Satterwhite.

Of course most students didn't have the opportunity to own such luxury cars. They dealt with the expense of buying an affordable car, along with other costs such as insurance, gas and repairs.

Senior Rachel Brinner said, "I had to buy my car and naturally, that drained my pockets, so my grandma paid for my insurance."

Along with the expense of a car, came convenience.

Junior Eric John said, "I knew that because I paid for my car, I could get up and leave whenever I wanted to and that was convenient."

The convenience of car ownership came hand in hand with freedom.

"I used to have my parents or sister take me places, but now I can go wherever I want," said Senior Kristy Hillix. "Now with my car, I get more freedom."

Owning a car was held in high regard, and if car ownership was impossible, students said riding with a friend was preferable to riding the bus or (gasp!) with a parent.

I knew getting up to leave whenever I wanted to was a

privilege and I have taken full advantage of it since I got my own car," said Brinner.

Underclassmen, such as Freshman Becky Foshee, said rides were sometimes hard to come by.

"I always got worried after cross country practice because I never knew who I was going to get a ride home with," she said.

According to most car owners, expenses were outrageous but car ownership was well worth the sacrifices made.

Junior Christian Nord said it best.

"Without my car, I would die."

*Design By: Heidi Jo Hamilton-Brake  
Copy By: Dana Battin*



Cars fill the student parking lot on the school's south side. Students had to purchase a parking tag through the security office in order to park in this lot.

*Photo By: Jill Montgomery*

Junior Lisa Gargotto's Chevy Nova takes her where she wants to go. Most students agreed that driving to school was much superior to riding the bus.

*Photo By: Jill Montgomery*





Bumper stickers proclaiming free speech and supporting bands, decorate Junior Tiffany Minx's car. Students' cars reflected individual personalities.  
*Photo By: Jill Montgomery*

Junior Craig Robinson uses his car to show his team spirit for the Kansas City Chiefs. Many students displayed Chiefs' memorabilia on their cars, including flags, bumper stickers and tire covers.  
*Photo By: Jill Montgomery*



Personalized licence plates, such as Senior Kristy Hillix's "Disney-U", are unique sights in the parking lot. Other personalized plates included messages such as "BLKINK", meaning "black ink" and "MS MOO" on the car of a cow enthusiast.  
*Photo By: Jill Montgomery*



Senior Homecoming attendants pose for a group shot on the evening of the dance. Being a part of Homecoming royalty added excitement to their senior year.



# HOMECOMING-1996

## SCHOOL SPIRIT SHINES THROUGH

Anticipation filled the air as inspired football players, tense Homecoming candidates and energetic students awaited the Homecoming events of October 25 and 26.

On the morning of the game, attendants sitting regally upon convertibles, rode past the district's elementary schools. Floats made by various classes and clubs were also displayed in this parade. The parade didn't stop there, though. Later that day, the procession reassembled to crawl around the track of the football stadium for the all-school pep assembly.

Despite the cold air and gusty winds, the attendants smiled and waved to the gathered crowd. Chosen by their peers, the attendants viewed the event as quite an honor.

Halftime marked the time for the crowning of the king and queen. Royalty titles were bestowed upon Kristy Hillix and Ron Franklin. Tears and smiles were common sights and Queen Kristy Hillix was smothered in hugs as she experienced her moment of glory.

"I was very honored to be crowned queen. It was a big surprise and one of the most

memorable evenings ever," said Hillix.

The other memorable event of the night was the win over the Belton Pirates by the score of 42-20.

"The win was especially sweet because two years ago, they beat us badly at our own Homecoming," said Eric Boyd, senior.

The theme of Homecoming was "Renaissance: A Rebirth". This theme was represented in the parade, on posters and even into the dance held the evening after the ceremony. The dance marked the final Homecoming event of the week. Students who attended

the dance said they enjoyed the time to relax and spend time with friends.

"The dance was fun because all my friends were there and we all just hung out," said Leana Carpenter, sophomore.

When the last dance was danced, and the last picture was taken, students walked away from Homecoming '96 with new memories that would last them a lifetime. Senior Josh Howard thought the dance was a wonderful finale for an eventful week.

"If you have to go out, that was the way to do it," he said.

*Design By: Jessica Brooks  
Copy By: Josh Howard*



Seniors Josh Patterson, Mike Weiland, Jeff Landes, Joe Craig and Jim Martin ride the Ceramics Club's float during the night parade. Riding the float was just one part of the fun of Homecoming.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*

Enjoying her moment in the spotlight, Danience Moreland, senior, is presented to the audience before the crowning ceremony. The candidates were presented during halftime of the football game.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



Freshmen Crystal Gilliland, Dana Bassore and Morgan Ridgeway cheer for the Class of 2000. Their energy and enthusiasm captured the spirit of the moment.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*

Homecoming Queen Kristy Hillix, senior, is ushered around the football field during the pep assembly. Hillix said she was honored to be chosen as queen by her peers.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*





**K**ori Crawford and Kristen Reaves, both seniors, fold poms in chicken wire to make the sign for the senior float. Students turned a difficult task in to an opportunity to hang out with their friends. *Photo By: Alexa Vleisides*

# SPIRIT! TRADITION TAKES OVER

## WEEK ALLOWS FOR FUN

Spirit Week, held on the three days before the Homecoming game, was a time for students to add some fun and craziness to the every-day doldrum of academics.

The main purpose of the three-day bash was to give students a chance to show their school spirit.

"It enhanced school spirit among the student body," Kristen Reaves said.

The increase in spirit made the school more fun, according to Freshman Morgan Ridgeway.

"It was cool to see everyone spirited. It really made everyone come together,"

Ridgeway said.

However, Spirit Week was more than a time for school spirit to be bolstered. No longer was it just a time for everyone to get pumped up for the Homecoming game. Nor was it merely a chance for students to do goofy things with their hair or wear clothes they normally would not be caught dead wearing. For many, Spirit Week was a time to relax and relieve a little stress.

"Spirit week is a time for the students to relieve stress by expressing themselves in a way they usually are not allowed to," Senior Josh Gwilt

said.

For others, it was the perfect chance to do all of the strange things they wanted to do, but never had enough courage.

"It gives me a chance to show my goofy side," said Christian Nord, junior.

The old purposes were still good enough for some. Neil Corriston, freshman, thought it was a great opportunity to show off the things that he could do with his hair.

Despite the meaning, Spirit Week was considered an overall success.

*Page Design and Copy By:  
Lauren Stewart*







Senior April Demasters works on the sign for the senior's Homecoming float. The Homecoming parade helped boost school spirit according to participants.

*Photo By: Alexa Vleisides*

Alyce Sherman, English teacher, shows that she's "a little bit country" on Hat Day during Spirit Week. She was dressed to the hilt from top to bottom starting with her straw cowboy hat.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



Sophomore Scott Reaves waits aboard his float for the parade to begin. Preparing floats for the Homecoming parade was a Spirit Week event that allowed for much student participation.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*

Senior Josh Gwilt shows off his 'fro on Crazy Hair Day during Homecoming Spirit Week. By teasing his blonde corkscrew curls, Gwilt said this 1970's flashback was easy to create.

*Photo By: Jill Montgomery*



**K**ing Candidate Rob Anderson enters the gymnasium with his mother, Sherry Anderson as his escort. The crowning ceremony went smoothly, despite the fears and anxiousness by those participating.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*

**C**ourtwarding Queen Monique Jones and her escort, Herbert Brown, senior, were bombarded by photographers after the crowning ceremony. Posing for photos seemed to be a minor inconvenience in relation to the rest of the festivities of the entire evening.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



**F**reshmen attendants Morgan Ridgeway and Neil Corrison, with nervous smiles upon their faces, are presented to the Courtwarding audience. The flag corp provided an arch of colorful flags for the royalty to pass under as they entered the gym.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



# PRESSURE BUILDING

## COMPETITION AND FUN COMBINE

During the week of Courtwarming activities, some students were under a lot of pressure. The basketball players were thinking about their game against the Belton Pirates. The Courtwarming royalty was anxious about the crowning of the King and Queen, and a host of sponsors, Booster Club members and coaches were hoping for a great Courtwarming night.

Senior Herbert Brown, the starting center for the basketball team said the practice the night before the big game caused him some worry, but he still believed in the winning power of the team.

"Although practice did not

go too well, I felt that we had what it took to win the game," said Brown.

Some of the freshmen were anxious about their first attendance of the Courtwarming dance. According to Freshman Candace Chatman, she expected too much from the event.

"This was my first Courtwarming and I expected it to be fun and lots people attending, but I was expecting a lot more out of it," said Chatman.

Although many were stressed out over Courtwarming, some students involved in the celebration took the whole thing in stride.

"I was excited because I was

playing for Courtwarming. I wasn't nervous. Actually, I was just laid back taking it one step at a time," said Band Member Sophomore Sharonda Walker.

Even though many people did not attend the festivities, those who did had mixed feelings about it.

"I expected a lot more people to attend and it to be more decorative, but overall, I enjoyed myself," said Senior Aideah Jones.

The whole concept of Courtwarming is fun and competition. Although some people enjoyed themselves better than others, from the crowning to the dance, the event was a memorable one.

*Design By: Daniece Moreland  
Copy By: Marissa Wash*



A sparkling crown is placed atop the curls of the 1997 Courtwarming Queen Senior Monique Jones by her father. Emotions were high and tears were a common sight after the crowning.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



# TASTING SUCCESS IN DRAMA

## HARD WORK GOES INTO SHOWS

Every person or group of people makes goals for themselves. Goals are necessary for anyone who wants to become someone or do something great. The goals of the casts and crews of the fall play *Any Number Can Die* and the winter musical, *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown* were to have fun and produce two successful productions.

Some members agreed on what a "successful" production actually included. Although individually, they had different ideas on what was good, they all agreed that both the play and musical were good.

To build the attendance of the plays allow more students to see the work of their fellow classmates, the cast and crew of *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown* tried something new. A matinee performance was held during school hours, to the delight of both students and teachers.

"I think the matinee was a good idea. I'll admit I was a little nervous singing in front of the entire school, but it caused more students to become interested in drama, so it was worth it," said Senior Amy Kearney.

"The matinee was different. I didn't know what to expect, but now I am glad we did it. It was fun and we

raised a lot of money for the drama department," said Junior Anneka Jenkins.

The matinee was just one reason the musical was successful. For some students, personal satisfaction was the measure of successful.

"I think it was a successful musical for me and the rest of

### ADMIT ONE

*"...I admit. I was a little nervous singing in front of the entire school..."*

SENIOR AMY KEARNEY

the members in the pit band, because we worked hard during rehearsals, and did our best during the performance," said Junior Craig Robison.

The crews also put in many hours to the productions achieve success.

"The crews worked as hard as they could to get things ready for the play and musical. We did a really good job getting everything together," said Junior Amy Loss.

Having fun was also an important goal of the cast and crew members. They worked hard, but also allowed time to enjoy themselves.

"While working on the play, we took chairs with wheels on them and played bumper cars with each other. That is something I will always remember,"

said Freshman Erin Andersen.

"I thought it was so much fun just to step out of myself for a few hours and try to become somebody else. That was a remarkable feeling," said Senior Ross Wiseman.

Past success in plays and musicals prompted some to join the '96 and '97 productions.

"I had a lot of fun in past years, so I came back to do it again," said Senior Amy Kearney.

Lisa Sorensen also participated in the play and musical because of the fun she had working in previous shows.

"My most memorable time in the play was when someone climbed up the catwalk and couldn't get down. I was hoping that something that funny might happen again," she said.

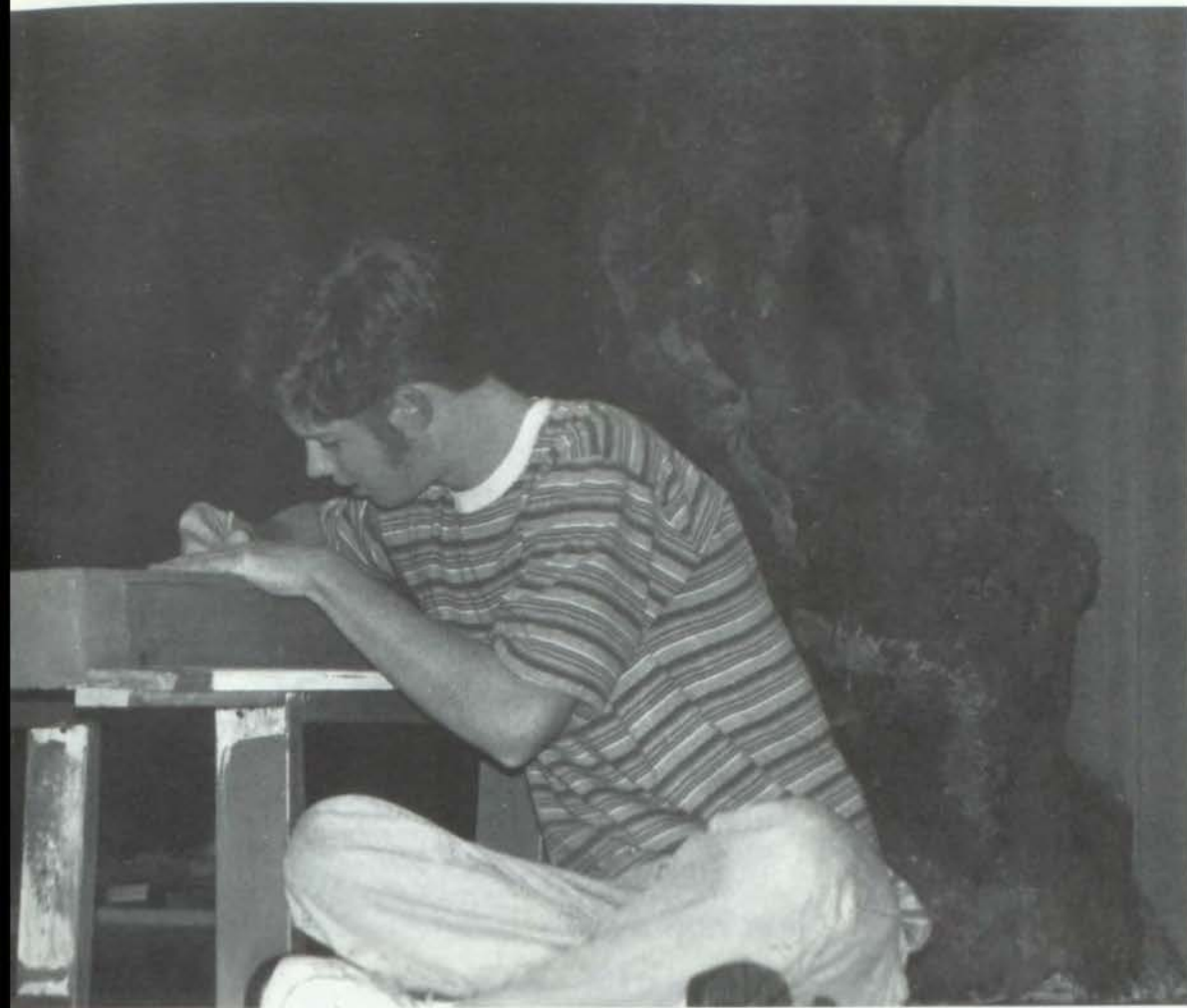
All members in the drama department agreed that in some way or another, the play and musical proved successful. Freshman Larry Druen thought the casts and crews accomplished the goals they set for themselves.

"We did everything we wanted to do. It was a ton of fun," he said.

*Design and Copy By: Ashley Prater*

Joe Carr, freshman, and Katrina Byndon, junior, discuss marriage plans. The romance between the two characters added suspense to the fall play. Photo By: Lisa Sorensen





Senior Ross Wiseman, playing the role of Schroeder in the musical *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*, prepares to write a symphony. Schroeder spent many hours playing the music of Beethoven and Bach, but Wiseman admitted that he did not play the piano quite as well as his counterpart.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



Freshman Larry Druen ponders the mystery presented in the play *Any Number Can Die*. Drama was a fun pastime according to Druen, who was involved in several other school and community activities.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



Senior Amy Kearney (Lucy) sings to Joe Carr (Charlie Brown). Kearney said that the thought of singing in front of the school caused her great anxiety, but she admitted she handled it well.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



Finding the perfect dress for Prom was important to all of the girls. Although the dresses ran anywhere from \$100-\$500, the perfect dress was worth the money, according to most. Photo By: Lisa Sorensen



# THE PERFECT DATE

"The perfect Prom would be a nice dinner with a beautiful woman, then an evening of dancing. But most important has gotta be fun."

*Junior Jason Mensing*

"My perfect Prom would be a fun evening with memories to last me the rest of my life."

*Senior Eric Lau*

"My perfect Prom would be riding around in a limo and spending the night dancing and having fun with friends."

*Sophomore Amy Loss*

"A perfect Prom date would be an elegant evening with a beautiful and with intellectual young lady."

*Junior Phillip Young*



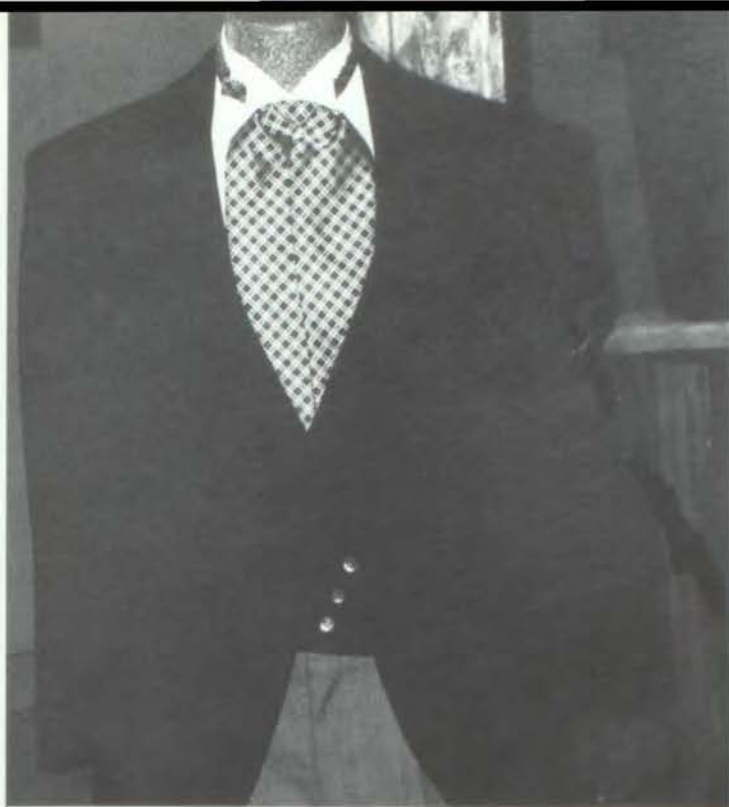
Juniors Mat Peterson, Pete Davis and Mike Norman gather around Sponsors Ashley Hillyard and Nancy Cooley to choose decorations from the Prom catalog. Getting everyone to agree on one thing was sometimes difficult.

*Photo By: Kathy Yates*

Posing for what seems like hundreds of photos is a part of the many Prom rituals. Junior Lauren Stewart and her date prepare for their formal evening. "It was a lot of fun getting dressed up and going out to dinner," Stewart said.

*Photo By: Dan Stewart*





Prom attire was important to the guys as well as the girls. Most guys faced the expense of renting a tux and shoes, possibly a limosine and flowers. Dinner was also an added expense, as most Prom-goers dined at expensive restaurants. All in all, Prom was not a cheap evening.  
*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*

P

lanning for the Prom, Junior Sarah London works on posters encouraging students to attend Prom. Many hours of hard work and a never-ending supply of dedication was required of the juniors in order to host a successful Prom.  
*Photo By: Kathy Yates*



# LET'S DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY

## A SPECIAL EVENING TO REMEMBER

Students attended Prom '97 basking in the ambiance of the special event. The decorations were beautiful, the band was excellent and the entire event was well-planned.

The seniors enjoyed a Prom for which they did no preparations or planning. The previous Prom was their doing. However, for this Prom, the Junior Class received a dose of just what it takes to put together a formal dance. According to Junior Class Sponsor Nancy Cooley, the planning was

stressful.

Preparations began in October. This included finding a place to hold Prom, and deciding on a theme and colors. The juniors relied on fundraisers to pay for the Prom expenses.

When the time came to make final decisions, April 19 at Windsor Garden Hotel was agreed upon as the perfect time and place to hold Prom.

"It took a lot to be able to have the Prom at the Windsor Garden Hotel," said Cooley. "We wanted it somewhere different from the past two

years."

As the special night came closer, Prom attendees began to put arrangements together. This included dinner reservations, dress and after-Prom arrangements.

Junior Christy VanLeewen said, "I wasn't sure if I was going to go to Prom, but I ended up going at the last minute. It was hard to make late plans," she said.

Some students, like Lindsey Hake, made special arrangements, such as renting a limo.

"My friends and I all

chipped in money for a limo since it was our last Prom, just to make it extra special," said Hake.

When April 19 arrived, many students said they completed last-minute details and rested.

"I relaxed all day so that I could be ready to have a good night," said Senior Kari Frazier.

The Junior Class looked back on the dance with pride, and seniors enjoyed a stress-free Prom.

*Page Design By: Kathy Yates  
Copy By: Lauren Stewart*



# GOIN' OUT WITH PRIDE

## GRADS MAKE A STATEMENT

As their senior year rushed by, the Class of '97 became restless, anticipating June 6. This date was significant to them all, because it marked the beginning of freedom. Hard work and dedication would finally pay off for this class.

Graduation was the day all seniors looked forward to, but the excitement did not disguise their fears. Senior Billee Runnels began to wonder about the decisions she would soon have to face.

"My biggest fear is that after graduation I will have to go out on my own. I will be faced with many new challenges," said Runnels.

The thought of the actual graduation ceremony sent a jolt of anxiety through some seniors. Senior Monique

Jones had the recurring fear of falling off of the stage while receiving her diploma.

The weeks before the much-anticipated day, seniors had several opportunities to leave their marks at CHS. During the Baccalaureate ceremony, held on June 5, students reflected on some of the many memories made during their educational odyssey. This gathering consisted of students participating in and gaining inspiration from songs, speeches and conversations. Project Graduation, an all-night graduation party to be held at the Longview Recreation Center gave seniors a last chance to bond.

"I think Project Graduation is successful because it allows seniors to spend one last time with each other without alco-

hol or drugs," said Senior Crystal Matthews.

Many seniors believed it important to leave behind good impressions for the underclassmen to live by and follow. Some seniors even left advice for the younger classes.

"Develop respect for yourself and others, and keep a goal for the future that will lead you to happiness," advised Senior Dana Atty.

All in all, the long-anticipated graduation ceremony would be the most rewarding day for everyone. A goal - set thirteen years earlier - would be achieved with great pomp and circumstance.

*Design and Copy By:  
Daniece Moreland*



One does not have to guess how Betsy Fry and Eddie Smith feel about graduating. Their smiles say it all. College was in the future for both of these seniors.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*

Donning their long-awaited for gowns in the proud school colors of blue and gold, Seniors Heidi Hamilton-Brake and Josh Gwilt anticipate the big day. Time in high school seemed to fly by, said Gwilt.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*

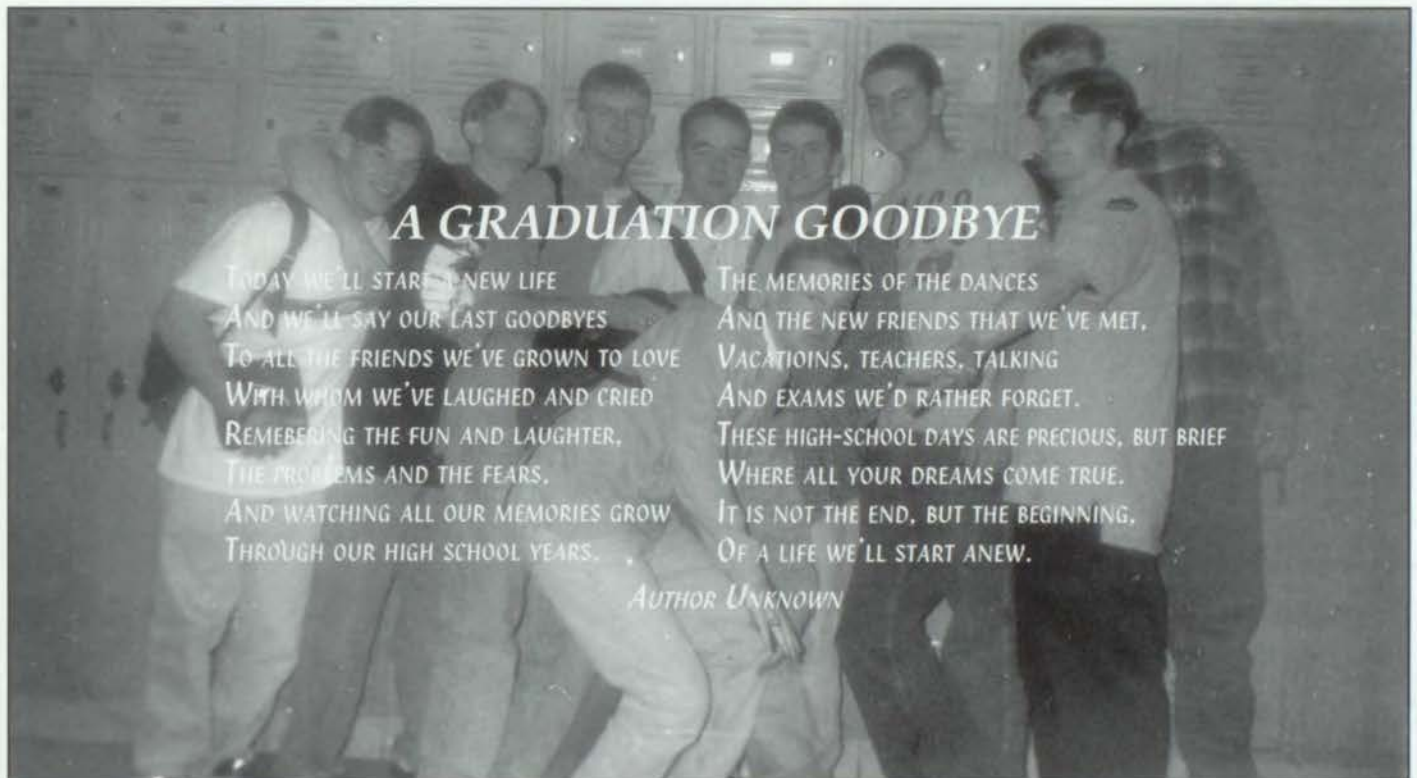
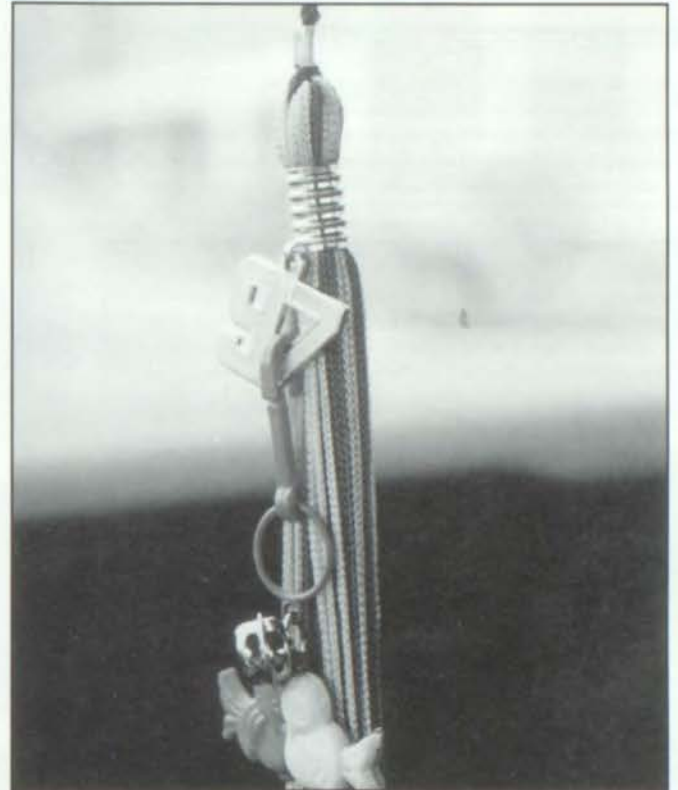






Painting her windshields in boastful letters in bright-white shoe polish, Senior Jessica Brooks adds finishing touches to her senior art work. Decorating car windshields was a senior tradition  
*Photo By: Angela Bigelow*

The tassel, signifying graduation, is a decoration that hangs in many senior's cars. Students received their tassels before their invitations and announcements so they could flaunt them before graduation. *Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



## A GRADUATION GOODBYE

TODAY WE'LL START A NEW LIFE  
 AND WE'LL SAY OUR LAST GOODBYES  
 TO ALL THE FRIENDS WE'VE GROWN TO LOVE  
 WITH WHOM WE'VE LAUGHED AND CRIED  
 REMEMBERING THE FUN AND LAUGHTER,  
 THE PROBLEMS AND THE FEARS,  
 AND WATCHING ALL OUR MEMORIES GROW  
 THROUGH OUR HIGH SCHOOL YEARS.

THE MEMORIES OF THE DANCES  
 AND THE NEW FRIENDS THAT WE'VE MET,  
 VACATIONS, TEACHERS, TALKING  
 AND EXAMS WE'D RATHER FORGET.  
 THESE HIGH-SCHOOL DAYS ARE PRECIOUS, BUT BRIEF  
 WHERE ALL YOUR DREAMS COME TRUE.  
 IT IS NOT THE END, BUT THE BEGINNING,  
 OF A LIFE WE'LL START ANEW.

*AUTHOR UNKNOWN*



### SETTLING IN

Students receive their schedules, locker assignments and combinations on Freshman Orientation Day. Freshmen came to school a day before the upperclassmen in order to meet their teachers and get acquainted with their new environment without the distraction of the other classes. *Photo By: Pete Gillespie*



### DISTRACTIONS

Sophomores Bret Eubank, Cassie Grantham and Judah Schad are distracted from their learning process by the camera. Fifty-minute classes were sometimes too much for students to handle, and they looked for any kind of distraction to break the monotony. *Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



### A WALK IN ANOTHER'S SHOES

Sophomore Diem Bui experiences what a pregnancy would feel like first hand in Child Development class. This simulation of pregnancy was used to encourage students to avoid the consequences resulting from unwise decisions. *Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*

### A CHANGE OF SCENERY

Heather Erickson, junior, sits on top of the desk for a different outlook on her studies. Studying in one place for too long caused boredom quickly, so a change in scenery helped students keep interest in their classwork. *Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



# THE PRESSURE'S ON

Making the grade was important to most students, whether they were looking toward college, or planning to enter the work field after graduation. Freshmen, as well as seniors, worked hard to achieve academic excellence. Teachers did their part as academic expectations increased and many curriculum changes were made to better education. Technology continued to be a main focus and P.L.A.T.O. and Macintosh Labs were available daily to students.

Benefits from the A+ Grant could be seen throughout the school. Each teacher received a new computer through the grant, and software to improve teacher planning and curriculum development was available to instructors. The learning environment of the school was improved with the installment of security cameras obtained through the Safe Schools Grant. Also, after the start of first hour, all doors to the school were locked to keep outsiders from entering the school without checking in at the front office. Sound like the same school?

"Beneath the fancy additions, it's still the same old school," said Senior Chris Howard. Seniors had a lot of insight to offer with almost four years of experience under their belts.

Senior Marie Martin did not mind the changes, either.

"During your freshman year, everything seems new and different. I now realize the more time that has passed, the more everything has really stayed the same," Martin said.

To keep academics in the minds of students, a 2.0 grade point average was required

to participate in sports. This standard was strict - even more so than state requirements. Why does the school put such tough standards on athletes?

"I look at athletics as a reward for having good grades. Without one, you can't have the other," said Junior Heath Norton.

Students whose GPA rose above the average was rewarded with being named on the honor roll.

To make honor roll, students needed at least a 3.0 GPA, which translated as a B average. For students who maintained a 3.7 GPA or above, a membership in National Honor Society was also a reward.

National Honor Society was an organization for students who maintained good grades in addition to participating in school and community organizations.

The motivation behind all of the rewards was simply to improve academics. While students worked to achieve academic excellence, the main drive behind it all was not always NHS or the honor roll, but rather one word.

"College," said Senior Amy Kearney.

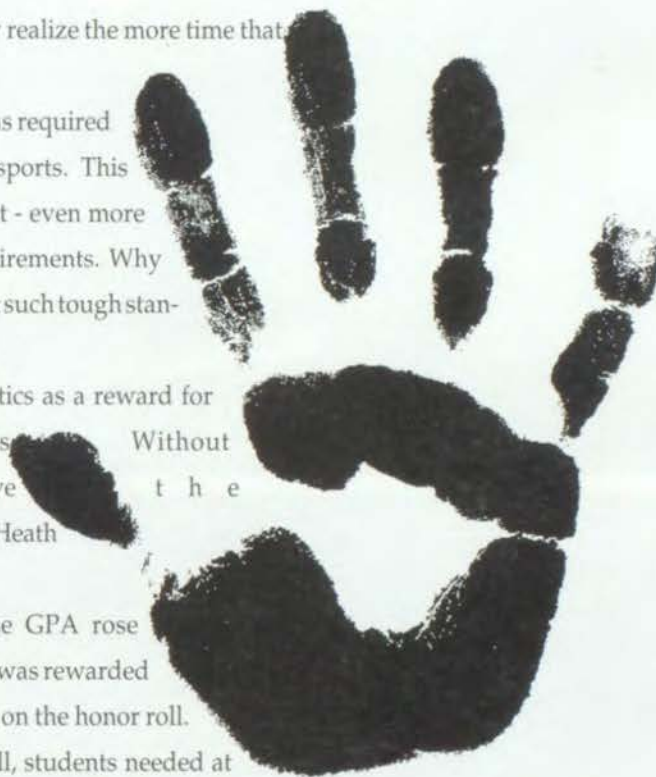
*Design By: Heidi Hamilton-Brake  
Copy By: Rebecca Piggee*



## MAKIN' NEWS

Senior Charita Brent prepares to go into the school to gather interviews for a news broadcast. Brent was proud to be the first student producer of Center Broadcasting Corporation, which worked to bring music and various broadcasts to students during lunch.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



## PRINTING MEMORIES

Photography Editor Lisa Sorensen works in the darkroom to prepare photos in time for deadline. Sorensen was often seen at club meetings, sporting events and several other school events to capture memories for the book. *Photos By: Kathy Yates*



## EDITORIAL DECISIONS

Yearbook Co-Editor Jessica Brooks, senior, and Senior Staff Member Josh Gwilt work against deadline to finalize pages. Deadline time often caused staff members much stress as they worked to beat the clock. *Photo By: Kathy Yates*

*Photo By: Kathy Yates*



## UNDER STRESS

Design Editor Heidi Hamilton-Brake pages through a design handbook to gather ideas for her next design. Brake was responsible for creating the templates for every section of the book. *Photo By: Kathy Yates*

*Photo By: Kathy Yates*

## CAPTURING THE MOMENT

Staff Writer Ashley Prater, junior, looks up from a last-minute proofreading job. Prater worked hard to write stories that captured the uniqueness of the school year.

*Photo By: Kathy Yates*



# Working with a purpose

Rumor has it that putting together the school yearbook is an easy job. But behind closed doors, what goes on in the journalism room isn't always a pretty sight - especially around deadline time.

Every member of the staff had a specific job to do. Some were responsible for the photographs, while others write copy. Still others were responsible for designing attractive page designs which had to meet specific standards.

However, the real job was bringing the work and ideas of all of the staff members together. Without teamwork, publishing the yearbook would be an impossible task, according to Co-Editor Jessica Brooks, senior, who spent many hours before and after school working to meet deadlines.

Co-Editor Josh Howard said being on staff was indeed a test of patience and willingness to work together.

"It was interesting watching a large group of people come together for one specific purpose," Howard said.

The staff worked under strenuous deadlines. They they were required to not only make and meet their own

## MAKE YOUR MARK

Being an editor, I discovered that many responsibilities come with the title. It was a lot of work, but to see the final product feels like a huge relief and a big accomplishment.

**Editor Jessica Brooks**

goals, but they had to make sure the needs of the other staff members were met as well.

Staff members agreed that they had one advantage - a good coach, Advisor Kathy Yates.

"Ms. Yates was willing to go to great extremes to get everything out on time and

she would always help others, even if she had a desk full of papers to grade," said Designer Natasha Walker, junior.

Making deadline was not easy. Plenty of times getting the information needed for a story was difficult, while at other times, getting quality photos seemed impossible. But being on the yearbook staff also had advantages, and the main advantage was the comraderie that builds between staff members.

"The yearbook staff becomes like a family. At times, we probably spend more time with them than with our own families," said Yates.

"Every year it is so hard for me to say goodbye to my senior staff members. It's almost like sending my own children off to college."

Although the job was tough at times, when the book becomes a reality and staffers hold it in their hands the time and frustration was all worth while.

*Copy By: Kathy Yates*

*Designed By: Kathy Yates*

## YEARBOOK STAFF

**Yearbook Staff:** Row One: Design Editor Heidi Hamilton-Brake, Photography Editor Lisa Sorensen, Co-Editor Jessica Brooks, Co-Editor Josh Howard, Business Manager Lauren Stewart, Copy Editor Danience Moreland **Row Two:** Writer Ashley Prater, Photographer Jill Montgomery, Writer NaTASHA Walker, Writer Rebecca Piggee, Advisor Kathy Yates (**Not Pictured:** Writers Josh Patterson and Josh Gwilt, photography Marissa Walsh)

*Photo By: Prestige Photography*



Yearbook Staff



## TAKING CHARGE

Copy Editor Danience Moreland, senior, writes yearbook deadline assignments on the chalkboard. Moreland found herself spending many extra hours on the yearbook to help the staff meet deadlines.

*Photo By: Kathy Yates*

## PAYIN' THE BILLS

Business Manager Lea Johnson, junior, and Advisor Kathy Yates discuss billing invoices to be sent to local advertisers. Money from advertisements was the main source of income for the staff and was used to buy photography equipment and other supplies. *Photo By: Kathy Yates*

## MAKIN' DEADLINE

News Editor Risa Johnson, senior, does a final proofreading of her stories the day before deadline. Writing, proofing, rewriting and repeating the process again was the key to publishing a quality newspaper, said Johnson.

*Photo By: Kathy Yates*



## CUB REPORTER

Co-Editor Pete Gillespie, senior, teaches Photo Editor Alexa Vleisides, senior, the ropes of page design. Being an editor required much computer and journalism knowledge, as well as leadership qualities.

*Photo By: Kathy Yates*





# J ournalism at its finest

A newspaper is one of the oldest tools used to communicate to the masses. The *Searchlight*, which has been a regular publication for several decades has informed, as well as entertained, the many students who have graced the halls of CHS over the years.

Much was involved in the process of publishing the school paper. First, the staff held a meeting to decide upon the contents of the next issue. After the brainstorming, stories we are assigned and deadlines were posted.

Next, stories were written, proofread and edited. Photographs were taken and pages were designed on the computer using the Macintosh program, Pagemaker. When all designs were complete, the pages are shipped across the hall to the industrial arts printing students, where the pages were shot on to film and then stripped to a masking sheet.

This was used to make the plate which then went on the press.

The final result was the school newspaper.

The Center journalism and printing departments are

## MAKE YOUR MARK

WORKING AS CO-EDITOR OF THE NEWSPAPER WAS A LOT OF FUN. IT GAVE ME THE CHANCE TO LEARN AND PRACTICE BOTH LEADERSHIP AND JOURNALISM AT A HIGHER LEVEL. CO-EDITOR PETE GILLESPIE

proud of the fact that they are the only area school that produced and printed the entire school paper. Students were in control of the issue from start to finish.

Working with a staff of only seven, Advisor Kathy Yates said at times getting out the paper was a struggle.

"As with any publication, deadlines were important. I was lucky to have such a great

staff. They rarely missed a deadline, and Co-Editors Pete Gillespie and Kristy Hillix were wonderful leaders," Yates said.

Students enjoyed freedom to print stories that they felt would be of interest or importance to the student body. No members of the administration attempted to censor stories nor did they chastise staff members for inappropriate topics - even when several of the topics covered were ones usually frowned upon by administrators. Some of these topics included abortion, bomb threats made to the school and an editorial about books with homosexual themes, which were to be donated to the Media Center.

According to Yates, the students were responsible journalists, knowledgeable in their rights and responsibilities. They used their freedom and knowledge to publish a quality paper.

*Copy By: Natasha Walker  
Designed By: Kathy Yates*



## NEWSPAPER STAFF

Newspaper Staff: Row One: Cartoonist Heidi Hamilton-Brake, Co-Editor Pete Gillespie, Co-Editor Kristy Hillix, Photography Editor Alexa Vleisides Row Two: Sports Editor Rick Milone, Lauren Lewandowski, Advisor Kathy Yates (Not Pictured: Business Manager Lea Johnson, News Editor Risa Johnson, Design Editor Betsy Fry)

*Photo By: Prestige Photography*

## STATING OUR OPINION

Sports Editor Rick Milone, senior, puts finishing touches on his editorial. In addition to being sports editor, Milone wrote an editorial for every issue.

*Photo By: Kathy Yates*



## OPPORTUNITY FOR SUCCESS

Nene Winters, junior, concentrates on an challenging assignment. Alternative School gave students who were short on credits, who had conflicting schedules with the regular day school or who needed a little extra sleep in the morning, a chance to get an education.

By: Lisa Sorensen



# B

## eat of a different tune

Not all students fit in the mold of attending school during the day, playing sports in the evening and heading to bed by 10:30 p.m. every night. Some students were not interested in a future doctorate degree. That was why the night alternative and vocational schools were offered as options for interested students.

Classrooms full of students at six p.m. was an uncommon sight. This was a result of the new evening alternative school.

Students who attended the alternative school, went Monday through Thursday either from 3:30 p.m. to 5:40 p.m. or during the second session, which ran from 6 p.m. to 8:10 p.m.

Some students attended school only during the night session. However, some students found it necessary to attend both the regular-day session in addition to night school.

Senior Jim Martin was one of those who needed the extra time in order to graduate.

"It's a lot of work, and I don't like being at school 10 hours a day, but it will be worth it when I graduate," said

### MAKE YOUR MARK

"IT'S A LOT OF WORK. I DON'T LIKE BEING AT SCHOOL 10 HOURS A DAY, BUT IT WILL BE WORTH IT WHEN I GRADUATE.

SENIOR JIM MARTIN

Martin.

The night school just seemed to fit some students' schedules better than the day school. Students who were one or two credit hours short of graduating could choose night school as a way to catch up. Best of all, no tuition or fees were required to attend the night school. It was free to all who lived within the district.

Class offerings included government, economics, psychology, sociology, math, English, art and other electives.

William Bernard, principal

of the school, said the night alternative program proved successful in its first year.

"The program we're running is for the benefit of the students because we want to see everyone walk across the stage, having earned a good education," said Bernard.

Several students spent half of each school day at an area vocational-technical school, learning a new trade or skill.

Senior Arlene Roberts, who attended vo-tech in the health field, hoped to one day become a nurse. Vo-tech was an opportunity for her to get a head start on that career.

Senior Joe Cary also wanted to get ahead, and found vo-tech was to his liking.

"We get more opportunities than in high school and we learn things we can use right out of high school to get a good job," Cary said.

From auto-mechanics classes to a night class on Shakespeare, students were putting out that extra effort to better themselves academically.

Copy By: Josh Patterson  
Design By: Kathy Yates







## HEALING HANDS

Senior Arlene Robert offers a healing touch to Senior Daniece Moreland by applying a band-aid. Roberts attended vocational technical school, training to become a nurse.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



## MOONLIGHTING

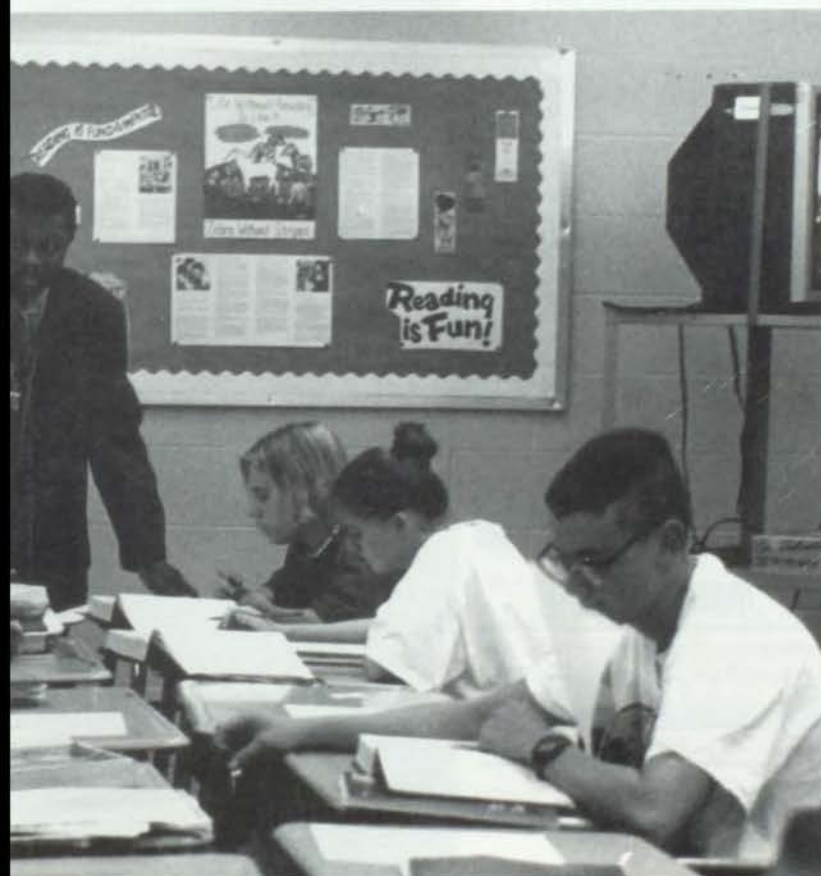
Charles Smith, English teacher, instructs an alternative school class. Several teachers taught classes at the evening alternative school in addition to their regular daytime classes.

*Photo By: Alexa Vleisides*

## PUTTIN' IN SOME OVERTIME

Senior Alisia Williams finishes her assignment for Alyce Sherman's English class. Williams, who had a toddler, felt that the night night school offered her a more flexible schedule.

*Photo By: Kathy Yates*



## BAND MEMBERS

**Row One:** Front Row: Diem Bui, Shashanda Mitchell, Melinda Grandi, Heather Blakesley, Shannon Grimm, Kylene Batiz, Heather Stock, Nicki Henderson, Danience Moreland, Katie Cates, Robin Greer, Arlene Roberts, Nicole Mills, Mahasan Tayllor, Rebecca Piggee **Row Two:** Hajah Kamara, Renee Betts, Morgan Ridgeway, Fatima Ganzalez, Gloria Chapman, Cheryl Carroll, Amber Randle, Nichole Harstad, La' Dettra Williams, Shannon Heffernan, Carrie Caldwell, Lekila Bryant, Tiffany Van Hook **Row Three:** Amberly Wagner, Kiyana Dodd, Jalonn Sidney, Tanika Roberson, Natalie Webb, David Crossley, Brian Worts, Stephen John, Kathy Milburn, Lindsey Weaver, Jill Montgomery, Heather Erickson **Row Four:** Ni-Kol Mooney, Reggie Williams, Amy Mitchell, Andrew Ringwood, Julian Stoaks, Sherman Gilbert, Shantonda Jones, Melissa Lozano, Cassie Granthem, Carrie Howard, Nick Scheuerman, Andrew Jackson, Lamonte Dixon **Row Five:** Steve Echols, Carl Grandi, Terrance Johnson, Toan Nguyen, Kevin Worts, Nick Snorgrass, Ananda Baucom, Gina Solde, Amy Johnson, Craig Robison, Kim Ashmore, Samantha Florez **Row Six:** Anthony Snorgrass, Lea Corriston, Shannon Higgins, Josh Howard, William Teel, Steve Mattson, Jason Mensing, Neil Corriston, Jolene Outley, Mishel Smith, Menulique Foreman, Ragan Townsend, Adrian Smith **Row Seven:** Pasha Housseini, Naveed Siddiqi, Jeff Douglas, Mathew Peterson, Zach Sage, Christian Nord, Eric Lau, Sedric Hibler, Sharonda Walker, Chris Lowry, Julius King **Row Eight:** Drum Major Lillian Pegelow, Director of Bands Carolyn Knapp, Drum Major Ethan Jordan, Assistant Director of Bands Tim Greenwell



### STRUTTING OUR STUFF

Band members perform during half time of a football game. Game performances proved to be a time to show off for their audience.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*

### TAKING A BREAK

Assistant Band Director Tim Greenwell and Lillian Pegelow take a break to catch their breath. Game performances took a lot out of band members.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*





## PRIDE IN THE BAND

Waiting for her turn to perform, Amy Johnson, waits with anticipation. Most band members took great pride in the band and were eager to perform.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*

## THE SOUND OF MUSIC

Lea Corrison and Senior Josh Howard chime in with the band at the Red Bridge Festival. The band was present at several school get-togethers and promotions. *Photo By: Josh Highfill*

## WHAT'S MY CUE?

During an outdoor pep assembly, Senior Josh Howard waits patiently for his cue to play the bells. Howard hoped the drum line helped boost school spirit. *Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



# R esponsibility = success

"Personal responsibility for group excellence". This was the philosophy Band Director Carolyn Knapp and Assistant Director Tim Greenwell introduced to their instrumental program.

"We felt that if each individual was to take responsibility for themselves and their actions, that the band could get a lot more accomplished than in the past," explained Greenwell.

Indeed, the band accomplished quite a lot over the span of marching season and through the duration of the year. It starting off with sending the second Yellowjacket marching band in the same number of years to

competition at the annual Blue Springs Marching Festival held at Blue Springs North High

## MAKE YOUR MARK

The key to band is not to practice but to learn how to play from your heart.

JUNIOR GARRETT DAMRON

School. The band placed two places higher than the previous attempt.

"It was a great thrill getting to compete against some top-notch bands and still taking

home a fairly decent place," said Freshman Neil Corrison. "We could have done better, though," he added.

Next, the band was off to the annual KU Band Day. While there, the Marching Yellowjackets represented the school before thousands.

Following that, the band traveled to Columbia for the MU Homecoming Parade Competition in which the drumline took home prestigious honors.

No matter what time of year, or what type of weather existed, the band played on, taking pride in individual and group accomplishments.

*Copy By: Josh Howard  
Design By: Kaitly Yates*



## OFFERING ENCOURAGEMENT

As a practice is not going as planned, Director Willie Thornton offers some encouragement to choir members. Although not each practice was perfect, the singers tried to make improvements during each gathering.

*Photo By: Danience Moreland*

## STAGE FRIGHT

Auditions are held for Contemporary Choir solos. Senior Kim Minifee was excited at this chance to sing lead. On the other side, Junior Kippin Austin was anxious and experienced slight stage fright.

*Photo By: Danience Moreland*



## CONTEMPORARY CHOIR

Contemporary Choir: Row One: Revina Cline, Kim Minifee, Aideah Jones, Anneka Jenkins, Marnita Edwards, Billee Runnels Row Two: Amy Mitchell, LaKisha Wooten, Holly Stokes, Reggie Lenzy, Brooke Caldwell, Dominic Rodriguez Row Three: Monica Blackman, Nikki Morrow, Anthony Warren, Martina McHenry, LaSonia Ford





# Singing their hearts out

Contemporary Choir, directed by Willie Thornton, spent the year performing for various audiences. They performed at different churches in the area as well as various school functions and concerts. They performed at Fort Leonard Woods in addition to performances at local schools. They also joined some talent shows. All in all, the choir kept very busy.

Membership in the choir required no tryouts. All who enjoyed singing were encouraged to join.

Contemporary Choir was popular with students mostly due to the music selections.

"I joined contemporary choir because we could sing songs that we really liked," said Senior Billee Runnels.

Senior Aideah Jones agreed.

"This choir has songs that we like to sing and it's pretty much flexible as far as songs are concerned," she said.

Junior Anneka Jenkins

## MAKE YOUR MARK

THE MUSIC AND THE PEOPLE ARE WHAT MAKES THIS CHOIR SPECIAL. WE HAVE UNITY WITHIN THE CHOIR. I'D RECOMMEND THIS CHOIR TO CENTER STUDENTS.

SENIOR KARY FRAZIER

thought the choir was great and that her history with the choir proved that.

"I have been in this choir for three years now. Why stop now?" Jenkins said.

Most members said that Contemporary Choir members were a special group. But what made them special?

Freedom was the main reason the members loved the choir. Members chose the songs they performed - selections from gospel to contemporary.

"The choir is run solely by student performers," said Senior Billee Runnels.

The choir proved itself successful and the performers vouched for that.

Thornton said it best.

"This is my first year having Contemporary Choir as a class, and I am proud to say it is a success," he said. "We just love to do it, and we do it right!"

*Design and Copy By:  
Daniece Moreland*

## PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT

Junior Porshea Randle joins her voice with other choir members in a rehearsal. Practice was the key to performing well when the time came to sing in front of an audience.

*Photo By: Daniece Moreland*



## EVER WATCHFUL EYES

Security cameras, placed in each hallway, help keep the school safe as well as helped cut down on truancy. Funding for the cameras was provided by the Safe Schools Grant. Improving the learning environment was an important goal of administrators, teachers, security guards and parents. *By: Alexa Vleisides*

## CHECKIN' YOU OUT

Constantly monitoring the hallways, security guards hopes to provide a safe learning environment for students and teachers. Along with helping prevent violent episodes and drug offenses, the cameras helped curtail truancy and tardies.

*Photo By: Alexa Vleisides*



## THINGS TEACHERS SAY THAT STUDENTS HATE!!

1. "Clear your desks, and get out a pen and a clean sheet of paper."
2. "Don't sit on the desks. Does your mother allow you to do that at home?"
3. "Don't talk while I'm talking. I'm waiting for you to be quiet so that can continue."
4. "You have homework tonight."
5. "Tomorrow you will take an essay test which should be easy if you study."

## THINGS STUDENTS SAY THAT TEACHERS HATE!!

1. "Why do we have to do this?"
2. "I was absent yesterday. Did the class do anything while I was gone?"
3. "I didn't finish my homework because..."
4. "I don't understand the instructions. Would you please explain everything to me one more time?"
5. "When will we ever use this in the real world?"





# A

# learning environment

You know the feeling. As much as you try to shake it, it just won't go away. You are conscious of eyes watching you. But no matter where you look, no one is in sight. Students had that feeling after new security cameras were installed to watch students from their ever-present posts on the ceiling.

According to Assistant Director of Security Ben Solomon, the cameras were a vital tool in security matters.

"They are a matter of safety for everyone in the building. They keep outsiders out, and hopefully keep students in. They are a great asset to the school," he said.

Junior Ted Cardos said he felt safer with the cameras in the hallway.

"I think that the cameras

## MAKE YOUR MARK

*"The security cameras are for the safety of everyone in the building. They keep outsiders out, and hopefully keep students in. They are a great asset to the school."*

**ASST. DIR. OF SECURITY  
BEN SOLOMON**

are helpful in preventing skipping and fights and other security problems like that," he said.

After a string of bomb threats and car thefts, however, students did not feel entirely safe, despite the cameras' role as a security blanket.

"Obviously the cameras can't solve all of our problems. We can't replace actual guards with machines and say that everything will be better," said Senior Missie Brittain.

Tiffany Minx agreed.

"I think that the cameras were a waste of money. We don't need them and they aren't doing much," she said.

The mixed reactions of the cameras will not change their presence in the hallways. They will continue the ever-watchful gaze.

*Copy By: Ashley Prater  
Design By: Kathy Yates*

## A+ Grant brings technology to classrooms



**A+ Coordinators: Row One:** Jan Edwards, A+ Secretary; Annette Howk, Science; Claudette Bartle, Social Studies; Terri Hardy, Mathematics; Bev Kowalczyk, English; Bruce Rehmer, Business **Row Two:** Ed Fitzgerald, Software Trainer; Connie Hostettler, A+ Coordinator

Not to be left behind on the technological fast track, through the A+ Program, a sophisticated instructional management software program, designed to assist teachers in organizing lesson plans, storing activities and creating an updated curriculum, was purchased.

The A+ program, formed to improve academics, was piloted by five faculty members representing five major departments as well as an A+ secretary.

Data entry was an emphasis, which involved the 73 Missouri State Standards

and the objectives of more than 95 courses taught at the high school. The software provided the means to fulfill the state mandate of linking local district objectives with the Missouri "Show-Me" Standards.

The A+ Schools Grant, received in 1994, not only paid for the software, but also made it possible to purchase computers for every teacher in anticipation of a software site license and a building completely networked and ready to meet the technological demands of the new century.



# H igher learning skills

The main idea of the Academic Team and Science Club was to prepare for quiz competitions. Members met bright and early before school and quizzed one another on various academic topics.

Junior Charles McNeil felt that the quizzing practice prepared the team for actual competition.

"Quizzing and competing against each other helped us improve," he said.

The Academic Team competed at the Rockhurst Academic Bowl and the Show-Me Academic Bowl. Teams from the Kansas City area gathered to compete intellectually.

Members enjoyed the chance to compete against other schools.

"Competing against these schools gave me a sense of pleasure since we were going

against so many competitive people," said Sophomore

## MAKE YOUR MARK

*"It gave me a good feeling to compete academically, and not just athletically."*

SENIOR ERIC BOYD

Ginger Damron.

When the Academic Team practiced and competed, they had to be on their toes and think quickly. Members said just knowing the answer was not enough to win. Quick thinking was needed in order to do well.

"When we buzzed in to answer, we had to think fast so we could get points," Senior

Jasmine Griffith said.

Competitions, practices and quick thinking made up the essence of the Academic Team.

The Academic Team offered the students more than the non-academic clubs according to members.

According to Senior Eric Boyd, being a member of the team gave him an advantage he did not receive from other clubs.

"It gave me a good feeling because I was able to compete academically, not just athletically," Boyd said.

Science Teacher Annette Howk headed the Academic Team through many intellectual challenges.

"I was proud to work with so many bright, young individuals," she said.

Copy By: Dana Battin  
Design By: Kathy Yates



## ACADEMIC TEAM

Academic Team Members: Row One: Jill Stempleman, Mishel Smith, Jasmine Griffith, Katchina Griffith, Christina Milis, Amber Griffith, Jason Sparks Row Two: Ginger Damron, Tiffany Minx, Chuck McNeil, Rick Milone, Ted Cardos, Kenny Mayfield, Teresa Self Row Three: Josh Howard, Madison Smart, Eric Boyd, Emily Walsh, Bret Eubank, Shannon Heffernan Row Four: Eric Lau, Molly Gillespie, Ross Wiseman, Ethan Jordan, Neil Corriston (Not Pictured: Pete Gillespie)







## BREAK TIME

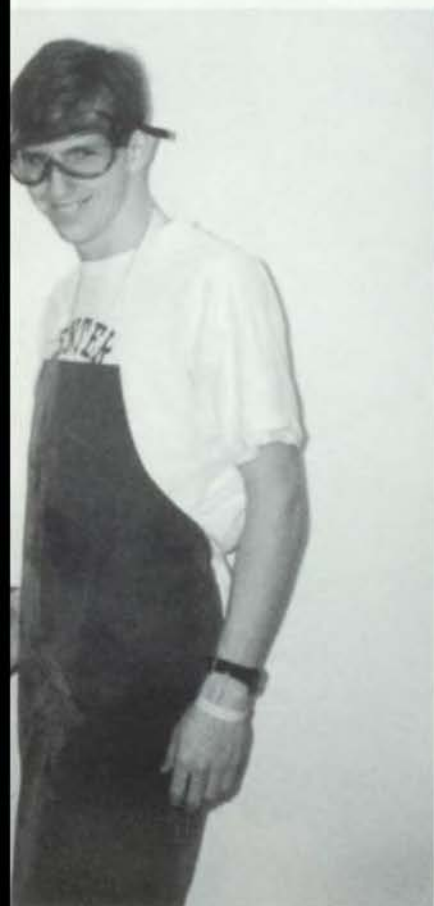
Lea Corrison, Jill Stempleman, Molly Gillespie and Emily Walsh enjoy their refreshments during a break at an Academic Team meet. The meets often lasted hours so food breaks were necessary to keep the mind sharp.

*Photo By: Jill Montgomery*

## SOCIAL HOUR

Students take a breather from the Science Olympiad to chat with teachers Kathy Chirpich and Terry Keeton. Students said they enjoyed the social, as well as the academic aspects of the team.

*Photo By: Alexa Vleisides*



## TEAM WORK

Junior Kachina Griffith, Sophomore Amber Griffith and Sophomore Christina Milis discuss quiz answers. Quizzing played a major roll in the Academic Team's success.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*

## SCIENCE TEAM

Science Team Members: Row One: Madison Smart, Jasmine Griffith, Kachina Griffith, Amber Griffith, Christina Milis Row Two: Tiffany Minx, Charles McNeil, Rick Milone, Ted Cardos, Kenny Mayfield, Betsy Fry Row Three: Eric Lau, Eric Boyd, Emily Walsh, Ross Wiseman, Ethan Jordan (Not Pictured: Pete Gillespie)

## CHEMICAL REACTION

Senior Pete Gillespie works on a chemistry lab for the Science Olympiad. Working in the lab was only one of the many ways members competed against other schools.

*Photo By: Annette Hawk*



### BOOSTING STARS

Tim Greenwell, assistant band director, helps promote the sales of *Stars* cereal for the Booster Club. The boxes of *Stars*, which contained photos of Center athletes and cheerleaders, were sold at local grocery stores with proceeds going to the Booster Club.

*Photo By: Alexa Vleisides*

### MAKIN' HISTORY

Youth in Government participants Seniors Charita Brent and Nikki Morrow make history by being part of the first all-female Supreme Court justice panel in Jefferson City in December.

*Photo By: Jackie Howard*



### UNITED IN SPIRITUALITY

Students gather around the school's flag pole in the early morning for prayer and fellowship. Although school-sponsored religious activities were illegal, students took it upon themselves to make religion an important part of their every-day life - even at school.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*

### LEARNING A NEW SKILL

Putting finishing touches on her ceramics project, Junior Quiana Harris acquires a new skill. Ceramics Club offered students the opportunity to work with a new form of art and create projects to send to contest.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



# CIRCLE OF INFLUENCE

Pick any day of the week and a meeting was called to order, a fundraiser was in progress or a learning experience was taking place. Whether it was Monday-night Key Club activities or Academic and Science Team practices on Tuesdays and Thursdays, students had many activities available to them.

Students sometimes were members of several clubs, which caused some conflicts. But whatever group they chose to join, students tended to be loyal to its cause.

"It is a hard job, but, hey, you know I would do it again. I love my club," said Senior Ethan Jordan, who was president of the Student Government Association.

Throughout the year, the clubs competed in various contests, such as the Spring Fling, Adopt A Family and door decorating. The time put in on these, caused club members to work together to reach a common goal. This enhanced the close feeling that club members built between one another.

Competitions were not the only events clubs worked on together. Key Club went to Crittenton to spend time with emotionally-disturbed youths a few times throughout the year. Members visited with the kids and played games during their visits.

Each club had its own purpose and goal. Amnesty International was put together to encourage protection of human rights. French, German, and Spanish Clubs existed to educate students about other cultures. Overall, students just seemed to enjoy being around others who had similar interests.

"It's pretty cool being around people I know and talking about the same situations," said Junior Dominic Rodriguez.

Clubs also provided something for students who had a lot of free time. Students appreciated having something to do after school besides just watching television.

Clubs fulfilled several purposes. Students learned new skills, helped others and gave to the community through their memberships in clubs. Clubs also provided a time to relieve stress and hang out with friends while still being productive.

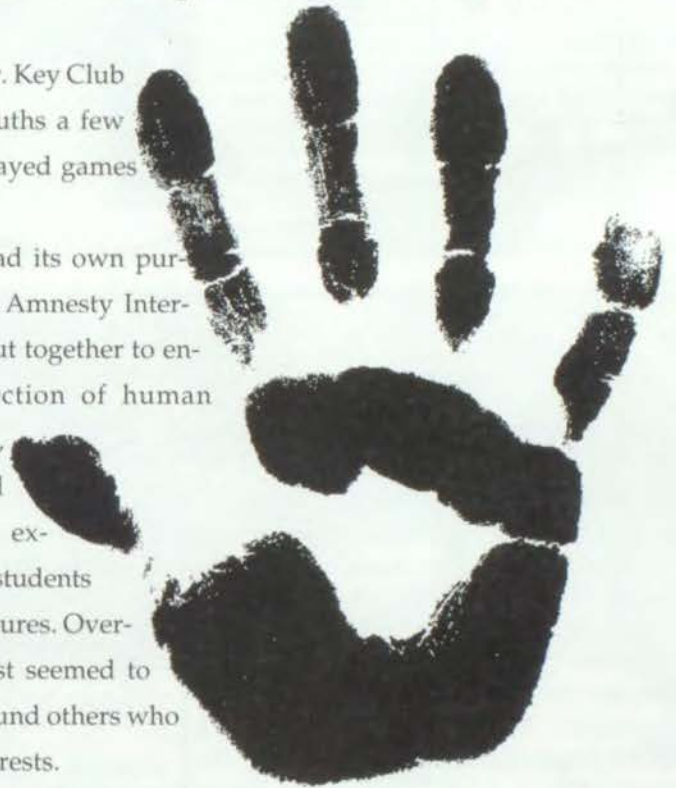
*Design By: Heidi Hamilton-Brake  
Copy By: Jessica Brooks*



## COULD THIS BE THE FUTURE?

Sophomore Jeff Douglas poses dreams of a future in politics during a visit to Missouri's capital building in Jefferson City. Douglas said he enjoyed this trip to the capital with Kid's Congress and hopes to return.

*Photo By: Phil Young*



**Workin' Hard**  
Seniors Ethan Jordan, Pete Gillespie, Josh Howard, and Junior Phillip Young participate in a general SGA meeting. These four students were a major part of the success of SGA.

Photo By: Lisa Sorensen

**Privileges**  
SGA Members Sonya Baughman, Crystal Koenig, Ross Wiseman and Rick Milone head one of the tables at a regular meeting. Being the head of the table was only one of the perks of heading a committee.

Photo By: Lisa Sorensen



# Student Govt

## STRONG LEADERS KEY TO SUCCESS OF GOVERNMENT

"I now call this meeting of the Center Senior High School Student Government Association to order."

With those words, along with a swift thud against the podium by his gavel, SGA President Ethan Jordan, senior, began another general meeting.

Under Jordan's guidance, the SGA continued its trend of strong student leadership. The organization divided its responsibilities into three categories: Student Concerns, School and Community Service and School Pride.

These three responsibilities were overseen by Vice Presidents Phillip Young, junior and Seniors Pete Gillespie and

Josh Howard.

SGA began work early in the school year, before school even began, by attending Freshman Orientation. Members worked with the freshmen to help make the transition from junior high to high

school an easier process.

Soon after that, they attended a summit of sorts, with Lee's Summit and Shawnee

### Making A Difference

"STUDENT GOVERNMENT IS A good club to be involved in. You get to meet a lot of people from different schools and have a lot of fun."

SOPHOMORE MELISSA YOUNGBLOOD

Mission South's student government organizations.

"Meeting with the leadership organizations of South and Lee's Summit gave us a chance to show off what we're doing and also allowed us to pick up some useful informa-

tion," said Lauren Stewart, junior class secretary.

Along with being diplomats, the SGA also spent time working on community-oriented projects, such as cleaning neighborhood streets after an unexpected October snowstorm left mass damage to trees in the city.

According to Ananda Baucom, freshman, the time she gave to SGA was well spent.

"It was fun getting together with other students and helping others."

Design By: Jessica Brooks  
Copy By: Josh Howard





## STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

**Student Government Association:** Row One: Rick Milone, Phillip Young, Ethan Jordan, Pete Gillespie, Josh Howard, Crystal Koenig Row Two: Rashonda Walker, Mishel Smith, Rudiana Frasier, Martina McHenry, Latoya Wells, Dana Atty, Mindia Stevens, Graham Brown, Mubeena Siddiqi, Missie Brittain Row Three: Pamela Bigelow, Heath Norton, **Damon Daniel**, Monica Shipman, Madison Smart, Kristy Hillix, Jessica Brooks, Amy Kearney, Jason Mensing Row Four: Carrie Howard, Katy Boyd, Fatima Gonzales, Ananda Baucom, Gina Soldi, Kim Grimes, Kylene Batiz, Shana Love, Eric Boyd Row Six: Tiffany Van Hook, Steven Hill, Terrance Johnson, Ashley Prater, Lauren Stewart, Eddie Smith, Jeff Douglas, Shane Grimm, Mike Norman, Paul Lillis, Rob Anderson, Eric Lau, Kurtis Green, Andrew Vleisides, Joe Byers, Pasha Hosseini, Heather Erickson, Naveed Siddiqi, Deandra Perkins, Teresa Self, Molly Gillespie



**Recruiting**  
SGA Vice Presidents sit at the table for SGA recruits during eighth-grade orientation. Vice President Phillip Young promoted SGA as a worthwhile club join. *Photo By: Jessica Brooks*

**Student Progress**  
Mubeena Siddiqi, senator, listens patiently during an SGA meeting. SGA met on a regular basis to discuss upcoming events and progress. *Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



# Dorks

## SPIRITED, TALENTED AND POPULAR

"Are You a dork?"

If you asked the average person this question, and you were likely to receive a few unpleasanties. But if you ask this to a member of the drumline and you would have heard a resounding, "Heck yes!"

Drummers Organized Representing Kinship and Service or "DORKS" is the name of the Marching Yellowjackets Drumline. In their third year, after obtaining club status, the Dorks have gained great popularity in the school due to their outstanding school spirit.

"As Dorks, we are often called upon to get the crowd hyped," said Junior Christian Nord, snare drummer.

Indeed, the Dorks were of-

ten the center of attention at spirit-boosting activities such as pep assemblies and the majority of all home football and

**DORKS**  
*"To be a dork, you've got to want it in your heart real bad."*

**SENIOR ERIC LAU**

basketball games. A new activity the drummers were involved in was "Pied Piping" students from their seventh hour classes to the pep assemblies. Quad player Sedric Hibler, sophomore, enjoyed this activity.

"It was pretty neat to play in the hallways and to look back and see a large group

following you," Hibler said.

The Dorks were also involved in quite a few competitions, including the Blue Springs Drumline Festival and the MU Homecoming Parade Marching competition, where they took home "Outstanding Overall Percussion Line" honors.

All in all, the total Dork experience could be defined by these words spoken by Senior Eric Lau, drumline captain.

"To be a Dork, you've got to want it (in your heart) real bad. You can't expect to amount to anything without practice and a love for what you're doing," Lau said.

*Design By: Jessica Brooks  
Copy By: Josh Howard*



**FOCUS**  
 Senior Eric Lau concentrates on his music while playing. Being the drum line captain brought many responsibilities in addition to playing.

*Photo By: Josh Howard*

**Warmin' Up**  
 Drum line members huddle to keep warm as they wait for the band to approach the field. Friday night football games got a little chilly for all drum line and band members on the field.

*Photo By: Josh Howard*





*In Sync*  
The bass drummers wait their cue to enter at the Boone Elementary Back-to-School Picnic in September. All members of the bass line were in their first year on the instrument.

*Photo By: Jill Montgomery*

*On Beat*  
Snare Drummers Christian Nord, Mat Peterson, Zach Sage, and Jeff Douglas work together to stay on beat during a solo performance. The four snare drummers were a key part of the drum line.

*Photo By: Josh Howard*



*Drumline Members*

**Row One:** Christian Nord, Mat Peterson, Phillip Young, Eric Lau, Ethan Jordan, Josh Howard, Jeff Douglas **Row Two:** Anthony Snorgrass, Sedric Hibler, Shannon Higgins, Sharonda Walker, Lea Corriston **Row Three:** Julius King, Chris Lowry, Pasha Hosseini, Naveed Siddiqi



# CHEERLEADERS

## HARD WORK AND DEDICATION TO SQAUD PAYS off

Hard work paid off for the varsity cheerleaders, helped them build strong, caring friendships, as well as carry them to new levels of spirit.

School spirit and pride was easy to see in the squad members.

"I think we've been more involved with spirit now, than we've been since my freshman year," said Kristen Reaves, senior.

Time and practice brought them many great oppurtunities whcih included taking second place

at the Regional contest. That win sent them to State-level competition in Columbia, where they cheered against over 100 other squads from around the state. The trip consisted of a long weekend excursion to the University of Missouri-Columbia campus, as well as an over-night stay. On the morning of the presentation of their routine, the

cheerleaders spent several hours primping and making sure everything was just right.

Upon arriving, many of the girls developed a case of butterflies, which were soon pushed aside when it came time to perform their show.

Nervousness at State was easily put aside, according to Squad Member Katy Boyd,

sophomore.

"I was nervous at first, but after we started the routine, everything came as natural to me. It was just like we practiced," Boyd said.

In addition to participating in competitions, the ladies continued to bring intense spirit to every game, no matter how adverse the elements. The varsity cheerleaders remained true to the team and to the fans.

### MAKING A DIFFERENCE

"I THING WE'VE BEEN MORE INVOLVED WITH SPIRIT NOW, THAN WE'VE BEEN SINCE MY FRESHMAN YEAR."

SENIOR KRISTEN REAVES

Design By: Jessica Brooks  
Copy By: Josh Howard



### SPREADING SPIRIT

The Varsity Cheerleading squad cheer at a home football game. Football games required a lot of spirit and the cheerleaders took care of this.

Photo By: Jessica Brooks

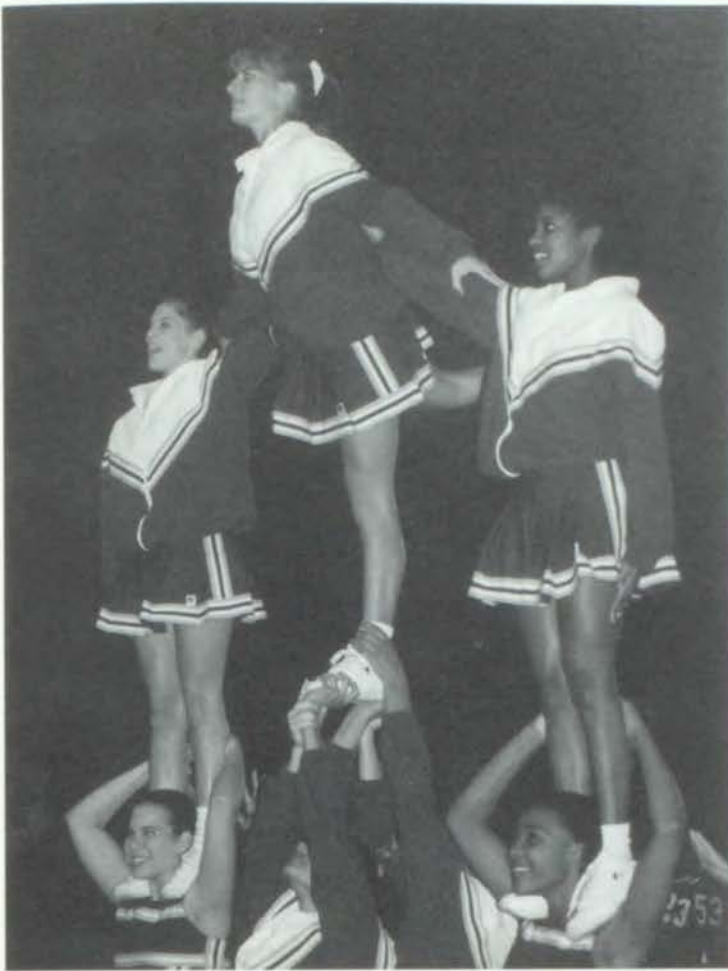
### TEAM EFFORT

The Varsity Cheerleading Squad works together to perform a stunt on the football field. Performing stunts was a dangerous, yet fun way to express spirit according to the cheerleaders.

Photo By: Josh Howard





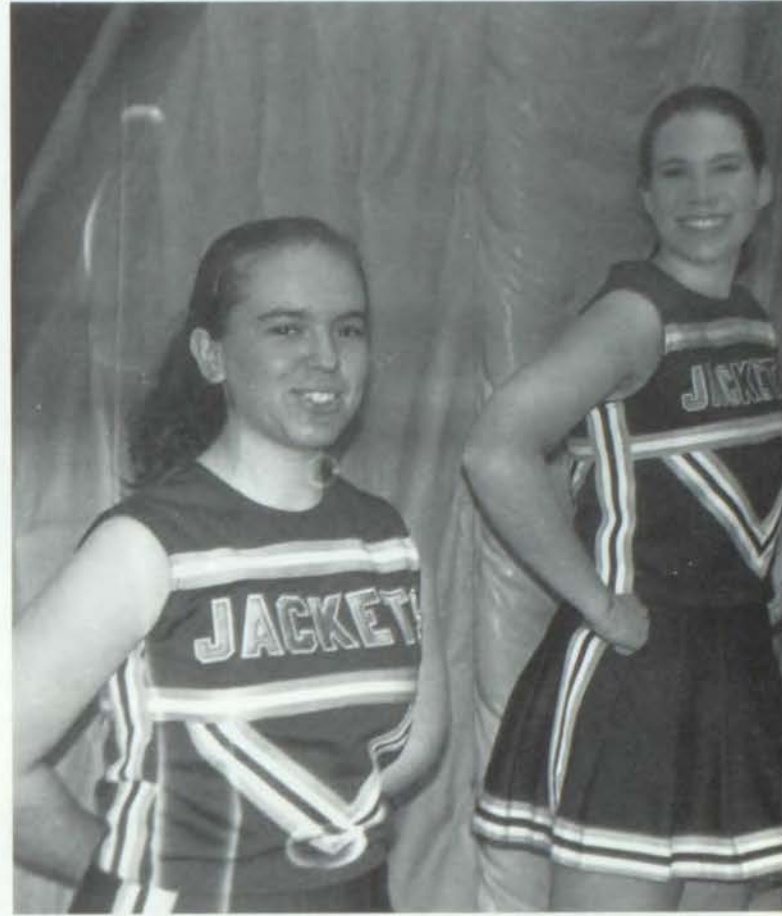


**Spirit Boosters**  
 Boosting spirit at a home football game, Varsity cheerleaders perform one of their many well rehearsed stunts. Members of the squad agreed that practice was the only way to improve upon what they had already learned.

*Photo By: Jessica Brooks*

**Poised**  
 Poised to perfection Varsity Cheerleaders Kim Grimes and Kourtney Walton anticipate the next cheer at a basketball game. Cheerleaders had to be on their feet and ready throughout the game.

*Photo By: Jill Montgomery*



**Varsity Cheerleaders**  
 Row One: Angela Bigelow, Co-Captain Kristy Hillix, Captain Kristen Reaves  
 Row Two: Mary Beth Doarn, Nikki Morrow, Betsy Fry, Michelle Smith  
 Row Three: Kourtney Walton, Mindia Stevenson, Kim Grimes, Katrina Byndon



## Spirited

Two members of the Junior Varsity Cheerleading Squad cheer the basketball team on to victory. The Junior Varsity squad showed a lot of spirit at games as well as at other school and community functions.

Photo By: Jill Montgomery



## Signing Up

Seniors, Kristen Reales and Nikki Morrow sign up new members for the spirit club at eighth grade orientation. Spirit Club is a vital part of the school community because it promotes school spirit.

Photo By: Jessica Brooks



## Cheer on the Team

JV cheerleaders help to keep spirits alive. The Junior Varsity squad had their work cut out for them when it came to getting people motivated.

Photo By: Jill Montgomery

## Mascot Magic

The mascot was always a very popular member of the spirit team. Even when the costume was stuffy and miserable, the mascot could always be found arousing school spirit.

Photo By: Lisa Sorensen





### Junior Varsity Cheerleaders

Junior Varsity Cheerleaders: Row One: Roshawnda Walker, Tiffany Elliot Row Two: Candice Chapman, Morgan Ridgeway, Marnita Edwards, Kristi Erikson.

# CHEERLEADERS

## Small is number, huge in spirit

Go! Fight! Win!  
 These words could be heard loudly, and with enthusiasm, coming from the Junior Varsity Cheerling Squad.

Just hearing them, one would not have believed that the squad consisted of only six members. The small number required more from the cheerleaders, however.

"Since we were such a small squad, we had to pull together and work hard," said Freshman Roshawnda Walker.

The Junior Varsity Cheerleaders cheered for the volleyball, football and girls' bas-

ketball games. The squad cheered at least twice a week. Many cheerleaders said it was

#### MAKING A DIFFERENCE

*"Since we were such a small squad, we had to pull together and work hard."*

*Freshman Roshawnda Walker*

difficult to balance cheerleading and academics.

"I had a hard time because when I had a lot of homework to do, I usually had to cheer. That meant I would have to stay up late," said Tiffany Elliot, sophomore.

Although cheering at the

games was very time consuming, the squad did not limit themselves to just that. They also helped with Homecoming activities, Courtwarming and the Adopt-A-Family program.

"Helping with the Adopt-A-Family program was my favorite because I like helping people and seeing other students getting involved," said Morgan Ridgeway, freshman.

Being on the junior varsity squad had its advantages. Members said cheering on the J.V. squad helped them improve skills for the next year.

Design By: Heidi Hamilton-Brake  
 Copy By: Rebecca Piggee



## Celebrate Winning

Drill team members join the Varsity Cheerleaders for a celebration after Regionals. The drill team and cheerleaders often worked together to promote school spirit at CHS.

Photo By: Mrs. Doarn



Row One: Ashley Cashen, Lori Conrad, Melissa Youngblood  
Row Two: Teresa Self, Annika Jenkins, Kelly Warrinner  
Row Three: Shannon Higgins, Carrie Howard, Amy Loss

# HALFTIME

## DRILL TEAM, FLAG CORPS TEAM UP FOR HALFTIME ENTERTAINMENT

"Let's get it started!"

If the Drill Team and Flag Corps had a motto, that would be have to have been it. The two squads came together to share halftime performances. They created an energetic atmosphere to get things started!

Members of the squads seemed truly dedicated to spreading enthusiams and spirit.

"School spirit is important because it gets students excited about the game," said Freshman Melinda Grandi.

She agreed. But she said that although their job of spreading school spirit was successful, she considered her job a lot of fun.

"Getting the crowd involved to support the team is a lot of fun," said?

Much effort was required to create quality halftime performances—most of which was credited to hours and hours of practice.

"We practiced Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings," said Drill Team

Member Theresa Self.

"Practice helped because without it we wouldn't know the routines!" laughed Grade? Kelly Warinner of the Drill Team.

Practice did more than just improve technique, however.

It also allowed for socialization.

"Practice is a good bonding experience.

It was a time that I became friends with many new people," said Nikki Henderson, a flag

corps member.

Although the practices could be mundane, or conflict even with very busy schedules, it all was worth it to the squad members.

"The biggest relief was when everything came to-

gether," said Captain Kyleene Batiz. "I loved knowing we performed well," she said.

Good performances was the top priority of both squads.

"A good performance gets the crowd fired up to support the team. That's the main reason why we do what we do," said Freshman Shashanda Taylor.

Yes, they did support the team, but that was not all.

"We also supported each other. I talk to the people on drill team about everything," said Junior Amy Loss.

Through practice and support, both Flag Corps and Drill Team were able to put on a good show.

Design By: Heidi Hamilton-Brake  
Copy By: Rebecca Piggee

**MAKING A DIFFERENCE**  
SENIOR KYLENE BATIZ HAS MARCHED IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF HER SISTERS KEILA AND KAMEY BATIZ. ALL THREE GIRLS WERE EITHER CO-CAPTAIN OR CAPTAIN DURING THEIR TIME ON FLAG CORPS. KYLENE WAS THE LAST BATIZ TO SERVE AS A FLAG CORP MEMBER.





*Showing Off*  
 Freshman Melinda Grandi performs at the Red Bridge festival with her fellow flag corp members. Performances often took a lot of extra time, but the girls agreed it paid off.

*Photo By: Josh Howard*



*Rise and Shine*  
 Flag Corp members rehearse a routine at a morning practice. Members often found themselves practicing early hours before school began.

*Photo By: Josh Howard*



*Flag Corp Members*  
 Row One: Diem Bui, Shashanda Mitchell, Melinda Grandi, Heather Blakesley, Arlene Roberts, Nicole Mills, Mahasan Tayllor, Rebecca Piiggee Row Two: Shannon Grimm, Kylene Batiz, Heather Stock, Nicki Henderson, Danience Moreland, Katie Cates, Robin Greer



*Recruiting*  
 Freshman Carrie Howard waits at the Drill Team's table at Eighth Grade Orientation night. This was one of the many events that the Drill Team members were involved in outside of actual performances.



# Key Club

## MEMBERS ENJOY THE CHANCE TO GIVE FROM THEIR HEARTS

Key Club was in a league of its own. While much of the world was concerned with their own wants and needs, Key Club members focused on helping others.

Members began each meeting by pledging to serve others before themselves; and they lived up to that vow.

The group raised hundreds of dollars to go toward such organizations as the Children's Miracle Network, the Salvation Army and the Iodine Deficiency Disorder. Members also sponsored a holiday party for teenagers

at Crittenton Center.

Helping others had a big effect on members, as well as on those who they helped.

"It was an awakening experience to go to Crittenton. It made me realize how lucky most of us really are," said Junior Charles McNeil.

Most members felt that helping others who were less fortunate than themselves was the most appealing goal of the

club.

Sophomore Ginger Damron said she joined just so she could help others. "I enjoy doing community service, so I joined the club," she said.

Junior Mike Norman had similar motives in joining the club.

"I wanted to give something back to the community. In Key Club, I knew that I could do just that," he said.

In addition to helping the less fortunate, students also became involved in the club for the opportunity to enjoy the positive interaction with other students.

"I joined to be with my friends and to help others," said Crystal Gilliland, freshman.

Members tried hard to be a friend, not only to each other, but to those in the community who needed a helping hand.

*Design and Copy By: Ashley Prater*

*Making a Difference*  
 "I WANTED TO GIVE SOMETHING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY. IN KEY CLUB, I KNEW THAT I COULD DO JUST THAT," HE SAID.  
**JUNIOR MIKE NORMAN**



**Tell All**  
 Key Club President Madison Smart tells the club's future activities. The club attempted to host an activity once every month.

*Photo By: Ashley Prater*

**Listen Up**  
 Junior Charles McNeil listens carefully to fulfill his duty as secretary of Key Club. For the three years he was involved in Key Club, he enjoyed being an active member.

*Photo By: Ashley Prater*





**SPARE SOME CHANGE?**  
 Freshman Neil Corriston begs for loose change before a meeting. If a member was for or talking during the meeting, he or she had to pay a nickel, dime or quarter for each offense.

Photo By: Ashley Prater

**GET ORGANIZED**  
 Club President Madison Smart, senior, takes time before a meeting to organize his notes. As president, Smart had to plan meetings and coordinate activities for the group.

Photo By: Ashley Prater



### Key Club

**Row One:** Mike Weiland, Brian Fuller, Graham Brown, Charles McNeil, Paul Lillis, Madison Smart, Eric Lau, Kevin Hill, Larry Druen **Row Two:** Ross Wiseman, Shana Love, Nikki Morrow, Jason Mensing, Jessica Brooks, Kristy Hillix, Heidi Hamilton-Brake, Shannon Heffernon, Sarah Weilert **Row Three:** John Strosnider, Garrett Damron, Christian Nord, Ethan Jordan, Pete Gillespie, Eddie Smith, Alexa Vleisides, Jimmie Druen **Row Four:** Joe Byers, Mathew Peterson, Josh Howard, Ricky Milone, Chris Howard, Sarah London, Neil Corriston, Carrie Howard, Neveed Siddiqi **Row Five:** Ron Franklin, Eric John, Nathan Peister, Amy Johnson, Crystal Gilliland, Morgan Ridgeway, Dana Bassore, Renee Betts, Lindsay Weaver **Row Six:** Nick Scheuerman, Randy Green, Angela Kartsonis, Ginger Damron, Leanna Carpenter, Kelly Warriner, Pamela Bigelow, Katy Boyd



### Linus

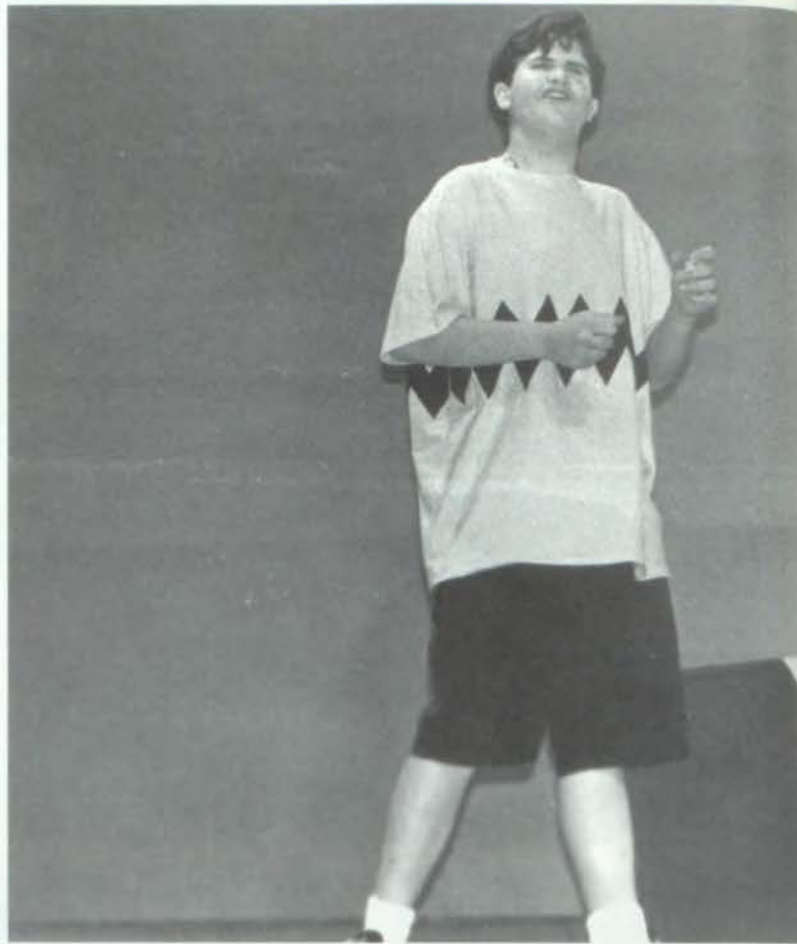
Senior Rayna Smith performs the role of Linus in the musical, *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*. This was Smith's first musical performance at Center.

Photo By: Lisa Sorenson

### Good Guy

Joe Carr, freshman, plays the character Charlie Brown in the musical. Carr planned to pursue a career in acting after finishing school.

Photo By: Lisa Sorensen



### Players 58

Row One: Ross Wiseman, Amy Loss, Crystal Koenig, Kylene Baltz, Amy Kearney, Missie Brittain, Kristy Hillix  
Row Two: Kourtney Walton, Cassie Grantham, Phillip Young, Tiffany Minx, Lisa Sorensen, Alexa Vlesides  
Row Three: Jason Mensing, Jeff Douglas, Tina Watts, Ashley Cashen, Naveed Sidiqi, Niel Corriston  
Row Four: Erin Anderson, Shannon Heffernon, Molly Gillespie, Mishel Smith, Katrina Byndon, Lillian Pegelow, Anthony Snorgrass  
Row Five: Morgan Ridgeway, Renee Betts, Dana Bassore, Nick Oveido, Leah Corriston, Nick Snorgrass



### Self-Control

Junior Lillian Pegelow waits with a poker-in-hand to attack a fellow mystery-solver. Pegelow, however, never actually got to perform the deed.

Photo By: Lisa Sorensen





# PLAYERS 58

## PLAYERS SET THE STAGE FOR QUALITY PERFORMANCES

Players 58 was a club for students who enjoyed the theater life. To become a member, students had to participate in both productions – the fall play and winter musical.

Several changes took place within the club, including new sponsor, Kamela Bates. Another change was that club inductions, traditionally held in November, were held in February instead, due to changes in club structure.

Participation in Players 58 was not limited to actors and actresses. Anyone who assisted in the production of a play – from the light crew to set builders – were included.

"I liked the availability of

Players 58 to students who don't act. I personally am not very good at acting, but I could still be in the club," said

Kourtney Walton, junior.

Although the productions were their big projects, the Players did not spend all of their time on the play *Any Number Can Die* and the musical *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*. They also participated in the Spring Fling and various other school activities.

But the productions seemed to be what the club was all

about. They offered students much more than just experience as thespians.

"I liked the fact that we were

like a family while working on the plays and also when we weren't,"

said Amy Kearney, senior.

During the two-month preparations for each show, members spent two to three hours a day together. Because of the large amount of time spent together, they grew to be like a big family, according to Lisa Sorensen, junior.

"We were a groovy little family. We were together so much, it just seemed like we were relatives," she said.

The group had open arms to any new members interested in theater. The group was always welcoming newcomers, according to Freshman Joe Carr.

"I encouraged everyone to get involved. We really liked new people," he said.

Like any large production, the cast and crew experienced highs and lows. However, members agreed that whatever hurdle was encountered, the show had to go on.

*Design and Copy By:  
Ashley Prater*

**MAKING A DIFFERENCE**  
"I liked the availability to PLAYERS 58 to students who don't act. I personally am not good at acting, but I could still be in the club."  
**JUNIOR KOURTNEY WALTON**



**Who dunnit?**  
In the murder-mystery play *Any Number Can Die*, Sophomores Jeff Douglas and Katrina Byndon give their best look of horror after witnessing the aftermath of a murder. Senior Betsy Fry and Junior Lillian Pegelow play the role of detectives trying to solve the murder. *Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



## SONG SELECTING

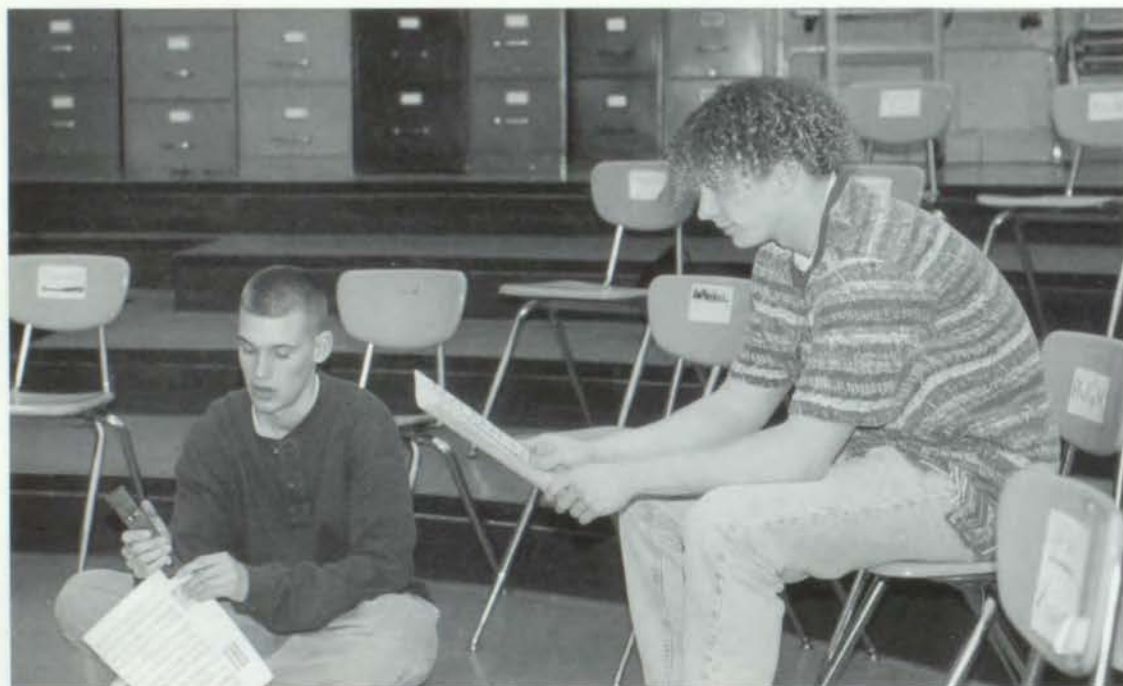
Sponsor Krystal Hunt sorts through pages of music for 87th Street Gang. The Gang sang various styles of music, which required lots of memorization.

*Photo By Jessica Brooks*



## CONCERT CHOIR

**Row One:** AnhThi Truong, Holly Stokes, Ananda Baucom, Christina VanLeeuwen, Antoinette Taylor **Row Two:** Rayna Smith, James Johnson, Chris Gilpin, Marcus Brown, Arron Trowbridge, Cedric Williams, LeKisha Wooten. (Not pictured: Kimberly Miniefee, Anneka Jenkins, Reggie Lenzy, Porshea Randle, Shana Love.



## PREPARATIONS

Senior Josh Gwilt and Madison Smart organize music for an upcoming 87th Street Gang concert. Members performed at each of the elementary schools.

*Photo By: Jessica Brooks*

## SOUND OF MUSIC

During a group practice, members of Concert Choir prepare to begin the next song. The group was directed by Krystal Hunt.

*Photo By: Jill Montgomery*



# 87th St. GANG/CHOIR

## LIFTING OF BEAUTIFUL VOICES IMPRESSES AUDIENCES

Concert Choir and 87th Street Gang shared joy with the community. Both groups performed at schools, nursing homes, churches and community functions, with the desire to bring smiles to some faces.

Concert Choir had a cluttered schedule from the start. Preparation for the winter and spring concerts brought hours of rehearsals.

"It took a lot of hard work to prepare for these concerts, but it was still fun," said Senior Rayna Smith.

"The class was extremely tense at first, but afterwards, everyone began to

relax and have fun again," said Junior Anneka Jenkins.

Concert Choir members had one special goal they wanted to accomplish. They wanted their last performance as a choir to be special.

"We hoped to sing at Baccalaureate or graduation as a choir," said Senior Marcus Brown.

The size of this choir, although small, was not a set

back.

"Since we were a small choir, we were able to focus on the music and singing while

*MAKING A DIFFERENCE*  
 "THE MEMBERS OF CONCERT CHOIR AND 87TH STREET GANG HAVE SHOWN DEDICATION, HARD WORK AND DETERMINATION. I HAVE GREATLY ENJOYED WORKING WITH THE STUDENTS IN THIS CHOIR."  
**DIRECTOR KRystal HUNT**

really enjoying ourselves as well," said Senior Shana Love.

87th Street

Gang had a successful year as well.

Auditions for 8th Gang were held the previous school year. At try-outs, students se-

lected a piece to sing as a solo in front of the other members.

Tradition for this Gang was very important.

"The tradition of 87th Street Gang has been around for a long time. It is exciting to be a part of something with so much history," said Senior Josh Gwilt.

Students in Concert Choir and 87th Street Gang shared the joy in their hearts with those in the community. The sound of music filled the room with happiness as this group enlightened everyone's day.

*Design and Copy By:  
 Daniece Moreland*



**87th STREET GANG**  
 Row One: Tiffany Minx, Jessica Brooks, Kristy Hillix, Josh Gwilt, Eric Boyd  
 Row Two: Lisa Sorensen, Heidi Hamilton-Brake, Madison Smart, Chris Gilpin (Not pictured: Charles McNeil)



## On The Air

Seniors Derek Kilgore and Charta Brent sit at the anchor desk, prepared to do a broadcast. These two were faces often seen working in the broadcast lab in the Media Center.

Photo By: Bethany Gammill



## Putting It Together

Senior Charta Brent, student producer of the newly-created Center Broadcasting Corporation, edits video footage. Brent was proud to be CBC's first producer.

Photo By: Bethany Gammill



## Camerman

In the class Broadcast Journalism and Video Production students received their first exposure to video cameras and editing equipment. Junior Marcus Jones learns the ropes of preparing the camera to shoot video.

Photo By: Kathy Yates

## Finishing Touches

During her ceramics class, Sophomore Moncia Shipman works to complete a bowl project. Members of Ceramics Club said they worked on projects during class as well as before and after school.

Photo by Jill Montgomery





*New Friends*  
 Junior Kim Grimes works to finish her ceramics project as Junior Kelly Colbert watches. Ceramics Club members often met after school to complete extra projects.

Photo By: Jill Montgomery

# CERAMICS/BROADCASTING

## Club Members Have Fun While Learning New Skills

The prime focus of Ceramics Club was to sculpt, paint and create new projects. Projects varied from student to student. Students appreciated the freedom to choose their projects.

"Creating projects was a good way to express our individual personalities," said Senior Joe Cary.

The Ceramics Club not only showed off their individual ideas, but also displayed the club's idea in the Homecoming Festivities, including a float, built by the members.

"We worked really hard on our project because we wanted ours to be the best," said Senior Brian King.

Much work was

accomplished in Ceramics Club, but a lot of fun times were experienced as well.

"I enjoyed being in the club because a lot of my friends were members

and that was what made it fun," Sophomore Katie Boyd said.

Along with having fun, relaxation was also a benefit of club membership.

"The club atmosphere is so laid back that I am able to relax and feel comfortable with other people," said Sophomore Monica Shipman.

Many members of Ceramic Club entered projects at competitions. They entered various configurations and pottery projects like tiles and vases.

"When I first started out, it was hard to learn

how to coil the pottery and then glaze the work," said Cary.

Yes, members did learn a lot, but members agreed that having fun was the best benefit of the club.

What was once the Video Club became the Center Broadcasting Corporation. The new idea began slowly due to a lack of interest. However,

according to John Lyon, sponsor of CBC, when everything was organized and rolling, more students would show interest.

The main goal of the club was to create a radio station for the school. The station would be run by students and would be broadcast in the cafeteria during lunch shifts.

Eventually, according to Lyon, CBC would be broadcast over the airwaves, where the residents of the school district could listen.

Senior Charita Brent was proud to be CBC's first student producer.

Design By: Heidi Hamilton-Brake  
 Copy By: Rebecca Piggee

*Making a Difference*  
 "We worked really hard on our project because we wanted ours to be the best."

**SENIOR BRIAN KING**

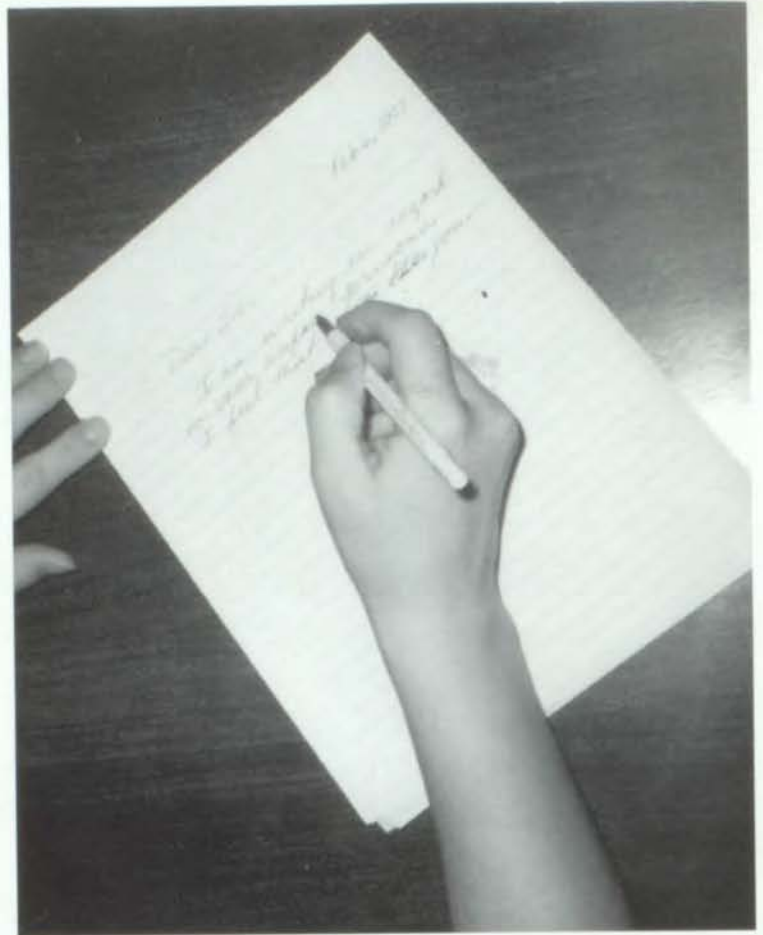


**A Plea For Help**  
 Members of Amnesty International gathered often to write letters to leaders of countries who were in some way violating human rights. Members said that they hoped the letters made a difference.

Photo By: Jill Montgomery

**Rights Are Violated**  
 Amnesty International members find evidence of more violations of human rights. According to Grow, the letters written by Amnesty members worldwide, do indeed help.

Photo By: Jill Montgomery



## AMNESTY STUDENTS WORK FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

What do politics, government and human rights have in common? That's the focus of Amnesty International. The group, led by History Teacher Tom Grow, studied government and politics, but the main focus was protecting the rights of those who have had their rights violated by their government.

"Amnesty is a large organization concerned with the rights and fair treatment of people around the world," said Amnesty International Vice President Tiffany Minx. "Its purpose is to

maintain a sense of humanity and freedom amongst our society," said Sara Weilert.

Amnesty students also ventured on a trip to St. Louis. In St. Louis, students went to

workshops and conferences and found out more about basic human rights, and what

they, as students, could do to protect those rights. Amnesty members joined in letter-writing campaigns to leaders around the world to plead for the rights of those

whose governments were treating them unfairly.

According to Jessica Brooks, senior, the thought of innocent people around the world being persecuted prompted her to take a stand. Letter-writing campaigns, she felt, was the best way she could offer help.

**Making a Difference**  
 "AMNESTY IS A LARGE ORGANIZATION CONCERNED WITH THE RIGHTS AND FAIR TREATMENT OF PEOPLE AROUND THE WORLD."  
**AMNESTY VICE PRESIDENT**  
**Tiffany Minx**

Design By: Heidi Hamilton-Brake  
 Copy By: Rebecca Piggee





**A GATHERING**  
 Seniors Rebecca Piggee, Sarah Weilert, Sonya Baughman, Jasmine Griffith and Juniors Tiffany Minx join other local Amnesty International members at a convention. Meeting with other groups was a huge part of what the club did as a group.

*Donated By: Rebecca Piggee*



**AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL**  
 Row One: Jessica Brooks, Eddie Smith, Jason Mensing, Peter Gillespie  
 Row Two: Lina Wu, Crystal Koenig, Betsy Fry, Tiffany Minx, Rebecca Piggee

**PRESERVING RIGHTS**  
 Senior Jessica Brooks writes letters during the annual Write-athon. The Write-athon served as a fundraiser for Amnesty International.

*Photo By: Sara Weilert*



**Goofin' Around**  
 German Teacher Claudette Bartle puts a choke hold on Senior Charita Brent as they goof around. Although the club had serious goals, they took time for fun, too.

Photo By: Jill Montgomery

**Taking A Break**  
 Junior Phil Young and Senior Kylee Batiz take a break from activities at the Youth In Government weekend in Jefferson City. Students spent their time role playing various governmental positions.

Photo By: Jill Montgomery



# PoliSci

## Politics AND GOVERNMENT - A FIRST HAND LOOK

The Political Science Club gave students the opportunity to participate in different political activities, such as Youth In Government.

"The biggest activity that we participate in is Youth In Government," said Political Science Club President Shana Love.

With that activity, the members had the opportunity to travel to Jefferson City, where they toured the capital building and studied the processes of the state

government.

Twenty-four students attended the activity in Jeff City,

It gave me a lot of insight about how the government works," said Sophomore Ginger Damron

Students participated in mock elections and debates. Some even held important positions.

One activity the students did not get to participate in was Model UN, which allowed students to pretend to be members of the United Nations.

"Hopefully, we will be able to do it again next year," said Love.

Design By: Heidi Hamilton-Brake  
 Copy By: Rebecca Piggee

**MAKING A DIFFERENCE**  
 "ONE ACTIVITY THAT SEEMED TO AFFECT STUDENTS WAS THE YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT DAY HELD IN JEFFERSON CITY. STUDENTS ROLE PLAYED VARIOUS GOVERNMENT POSITIONS."  
**PoliSci PRESIDENT**  
**SHANA LOVE**

which is about half of what attended the previous year.

"We pretended we were actual Missouri State Represent-







*Pol-Sci Club*

**Row One:** Amy Kearney, Ross Wiseman, Shana Love, Mubeena Siddiqi, Kim Grimes **Row Two:** Missie Brittain, Angela Kartsonis, Sara Weilert, Nicole Morrow, Kristy Hillix, Charita Brent **Row Three:** Pamela Bigelow, Katie Boyd, Heidi Hamilton-Brake, Madison Smart, Lauren Stewart, Theresa Self, Crystal Koenig, Kylene Batiz, Philip Young, Jeff Douglas, Munachin Uzomah, Eddie Smith, Mindia Stevens, Graham Brown



*Future Politicians*  
Senior Ross Wiseman and Sophomore Jeff Douglas prepare for the next activity at Youth In Government in Jefferson City. Students took advantage of the retreat to learn more about the U.S. government and its job.





*National Honor Society*

Row One: Pete Gillespie, Madison Smart, Kristy Hillix, Missie Brittain Row Two: Ross Wiseman, Amy Kearney, Mubeena Siddiqi Row Three: Josh Howard, Besty Fry



*Quill & Scroll*

Juniors Ashley Prater, Lauren Stewart and Jill Montgomery took part in the induction ceremony. Quill & Scroll members were honored with a special medal and certificate.

*Photo By: Debbie Montgomery*



*HONOREES*

Juniors Ashley Prater and Lauren Stewart take time out to pose for a picture, after the Quill and Scroll initiation ceremony. Being recognized as an excellent journalist was an honor, the two agreed.

*Photo By: Linda Stewart*



# Honor Clubs

## STUDENTS HONORED FOR ACADEMIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

National Honor Society (NHS) and Quill and Scroll rewarded students for going above and beyond the requirements. The requirements not only included excellence in academics, but also involvement in the community. Membership to both of these elite societies were hard to earn.

To become accepted into NHS, students first had to earn a 3.6 cumulative grade point average (GPA). After that, students had to fill out an application, which listed their involvement in the school and community. They also had to list any honors

they had previously earned. Finally, they had to show their leadership qualifications.

"I was so happy when I found out I was accepted. The requirements for membership were difficult, but I had worked on getting in ever since I was a freshman," Charles McNeil, junior, said.

Once in the club, students had to remain involved in the community. To accomplish

this, the club planned many activities during the year. Members of NHS were called upon by the school a lot when help was needed. At a home

football games, NHS members helped park cars.

Members agreed that memberships in these organizations helped them greatly in gaining admission to college.

"I think that NHS is the best thing that you can put on

your college application," Rick Milone, senior, said.

Quill and Scroll was also involved in the community. The majority of members were members of either the yearbook or newspaper staff.

Obtaining a membership in Quill and Scroll was not easy either. To be eligible, students had to be in the top third of their class in addition to showing excellence in journalism.

In the end, National Honor Society and Quill and Scroll benefits were not only felt by the members, but the school and community as well.

*Design and Copy By:  
Lauren Stewart*

### Making A Difference

"I WAS SO HAPPY WHEN I FOUND OUT I WAS ACCEPTED. THE REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERSHIP WERE DIFFICULT, BUT I HAD WORKED ON GETTING IN EVER SINCE I WAS A FRESHMAN."

**JUNIOR CHARLES McNIEL**



*Quill and Scroll*  
Row One: Josh Howard, Rick Milone, Jessica Brooks, Pete Gillespie, Betsy Fry Row Two: Eric Boyd, Lauren Stewart, Ashley Prater, Jill Montgomery



*Ritual of Ceremony*  
In a candlelight ceremony, new members read the society's pledge during their induction into NHS. National Honor Society recognized students who exerted academic achievement.

*Photo By: Debbie Montgomery*



# Hi-STEP

## MEMBERS PROVIDE POSITIVE ROLE MODEL

Reaching out to others enabled Hi-Step members to show that they cared.

Hi-Step (High-School Taught Elementary Program) traveled approximately six times in the spring to the district's four elementary schools to talk to fifth graders about how to survive real-life pressure situations. The discussions revolved around topics such as self-esteem, drugs, peer pressure and friendship, in which the students were taught serious ways of dealing with these issues in a fun and exciting way.

Junior Jason Mensing felt that teens could be positive

influences on elementary students.

"It's important to teach

*Making a Difference*

IT'S IMPORTANT TO TEACH CHILDREN AND TO EDUCATE

THEM ABOUT A DRUG AND ALCOHOL-FREE LIFE."

**JUNIOR JASON MENSING**

children and to educate them about a drug and alcohol-free life," Mensing said.

In order to be involved in Hi-Step, students were required to maintain high academic standards. In addition to that, those who were accepted, had to pledge to be alcohol and drug free, or risk expulsion from the club.

According to Hi-Step President Chris Howard, senior, being a good example was the best message to the youngsters.

"It wouldn't make much sense for us to go into these schools and tell these kids not to drink or smoke pot if we were doing it ourselves,"

Howard said.

Indeed, members of the club were excellent role models as they lent a hand and a word of advice to younger students. They were willing to do the work and show that they cared.

*Design By: Heidi Hamilton-Brake  
Copy By: Rebecca Piggee*



**Row One:** Lauren Stewart, Melanie Blando, Kourtney Walton, Amy Loss, Missie Brittain, Betsy Fry, Mubeena Siddiqi **Row Two:** Ross Wiseman, Shana Love, Nikki Morrow, Jason Mensing, Jessica Brooks, Amy Kearney, Kristy Hillix **Row Three:** Garrett Damron, Charles McNeil, Ethan Jordon, Pete Gillespie, Madison Smart, Eric Boyd **Row Four:** Mat Peterson, Josh Howard, Rick Milone, Chris Howard, Eddie Smith





## Productivity

Sophomores Leanna Carpenter and Kelly Warriner share a moment at an after-school Hi-Step meeting. Members of Hi-Step agreed that the few times the group met proved very productive.

Photo By: Lisa Sorensen

# Role Models

## THE IMPORTANCE OF

Providing positive role models for children seemed to be more important than ever before. Children were bombarded with many negative messages from those in positions of influence.

Chicago Bulls' Dennis Rodman, the cross-dressing bad boy of basketball, was suspended for 11 games after kicking a photographer in the groin during one game. He also did not refrain from spouting off obscenities during live television interviews. This was a man in a position of power and influence. Many young people looked up to, and tried to emulate professional athletes.

Many rock-and-roll stars were no better. Marilyn Manson made themselves up like demons while singing songs encouraging young people to kill their parents. A band member of Smashing Pumpkins was kicked out of the band after a heroin overdose. Pearl Jam delayed a tour so that one of their members could enter drug rehabilitation.

Songs and movies drilled messages of drug use, violence and sex into the minds of young people. Many families lacked positive parental influences as well. Too many children were growing up in unhealthy environments with poor or non-existent parenting.

For these reasons, Hi-Step was a breath of fresh air. They showed area children through word, and also by example, that fun did not have to revolve around alcohol and drugs, and that violence was not a way to settle disputes. Hi-Step members hoped that their small contribution to the lives of these young people did indeed make an impression.



## Acting Goofy

Senior Ross Wiseman takes time out from an early-morning Hi-Step meeting to pose for the camera. Wiseman said that he enjoyed being a member of Hi-Step and made a lot of friends during club activities.

Photo By: Lisa Sorensen



## PREPARATION

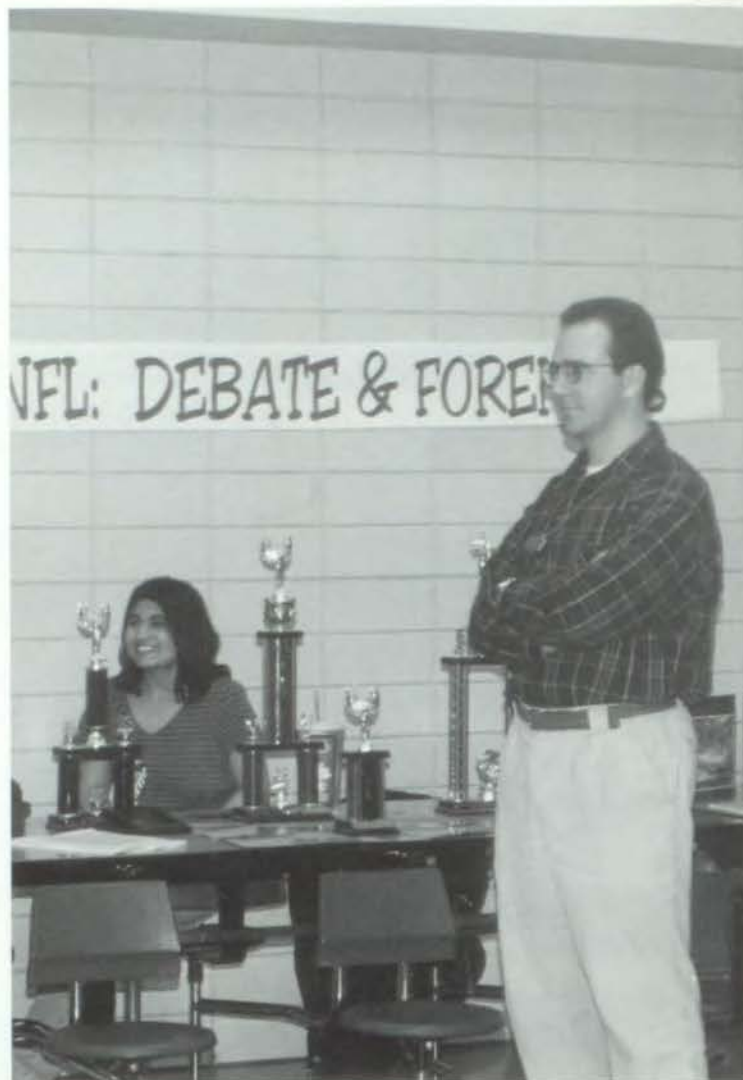
Junior Crystal McMillin and Freshman Shaniqua Townsend practice for their upcoming debate tournament. Much research and study was conducted in order to be well prepared for each debate. Members received satisfaction from a solid victory.

Photo By: Lisa Sorensen

## Showing Off

Senior Mubeena Siddiqi and Advisor Mike Reynolds sit at the NFL booth to show off their trophies and accomplishments at Eighth-Grade Orientation. Clubs wanted to attract upcoming freshmen to their clubs to keep them thriving the following year.

Photo By: Jessica Brooks



# NAT'L FORENSICS LEAGUE

## GREAT MINDS MERGE TO ARGUE CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES

The debate team participated in many tournaments throughout the year. The Center Debate Team even hosted the Wayne Brown Invitational in November. Senior Mubeena Siddiqi headed that Invitational with the help of the team's Coaches Mike Reynolds and Becky Berrigan.

Another tournament was held February 21-22 at Raymore-Peculiar High School. There, Siddiqi and Amy Kearney advanced to quarter finals.

The secret to the success of the team was togetherness, according to most members.

"One thing that impressed me about the squad was our ability to work together and support one another," said Siddiqi.

Junior Markisha Edwards and Senior Charita Brent also experienced success when

they advanced to semifinals in Duo Interpretation. Senior Ted Cardoso also advanced to semi-finals in

Radio Speaking.

"I am pleased with the students this year. They have shown a lot of dedication and desire to try different things," said Reynolds.

Many of both the varsity

and novice debaters excelled during the year, and some even received medals.

"I always knew these kids were wordy. It has been great to see them use this talent to succeed in debate," joked Berrigan.

The NFL Districts were held March 7-8 and March 14-15 at Raytown South High School. That tournament determined qualifiers for State. State Districts, known as MSHSAA, was then held March 21-22.

Design By: Kathy Yates  
Copy By: Pamela Bigelow

*Making a Difference*  
"I ALWAYS KNEW THESE KIDS WERE WORDY. IT HAS BEEN GREAT TO SEE THEM USE THIS TALENT TO SUCCEED IN DEBATE."  
**DEBATE COACH BECKY BERRIGAN**





*National Forensics League*

Row One: Philip Young, Mubeena Siddiqi, Missie Brittain, Naveed Siddiqi Row Two: Amy Kearney, Markisha Edwards, Larry Druen Row Three: Nikki Morrow, Ted Cardos, Tiffany Minx



*Discussing Issues*  
 Sophomore Pamela Bigelow places herself behind the podium to take position against her opponent. A well-researched argument was always the key to a successful debate, according to Bigelow.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*

*Taking Sides*  
 Adam McMurry, junior, and Bob Vaught, freshman, take opposing sides of an issue to prepare for their next debate tournament. Practicing their argument with other debate members was the best way to prepare, according to most debaters.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



# Spanish Club

## EXPERIENCES WITH ANOTHER CULTURE PROVES EYE-OPENING

Hablas Espanol? Spanish Club members spent a lot of time practicing lines like these. Members worked on perfecting their Spanish, along with participating in other culturally enlightening activities.

"I had a lot of fun at the Spanish Club meetings. I have always liked the Spanish language, so Spanish Club was perfect for me," Junior Lori Conrad said.

The club's goal included more than just learning a second language, though. Experiencing and gaining understanding of another culture was the main goal.

The club met once a month. At each gathering, a

new cultural experience was presented. The club's activities ranged from going out to eat at Mexican restaurants, to making and then breaking a pinata.

Experiencing cultural differences was not the only perk of club membership. Students had a lot of fun together along with the learning.

"Spanish club is a great opportunity to be educated

about different cultures by eating at the restaurants and watching movies. You have

fun while doing something educational," Grimes said.

Learning a new culture helped

members understand a little more about their own, according to Spanish Club President Shatonda Jones.

"Learning about another

culture really shows how different we all really are. It made me understand more about my own culture," Jones said.

The club tried to make their events as authentic as possible. The club even bought a Spanish spelling checker for the computer in the classroom of Carol Zagorniak. Zagorniak, better known as Senora, sponsored the club.

Spanish Club members felt that the experiences they experienced helped them greatly in gaining understanding of others, as well as themselves.

Design and Copy By:  
Lauren Stewart

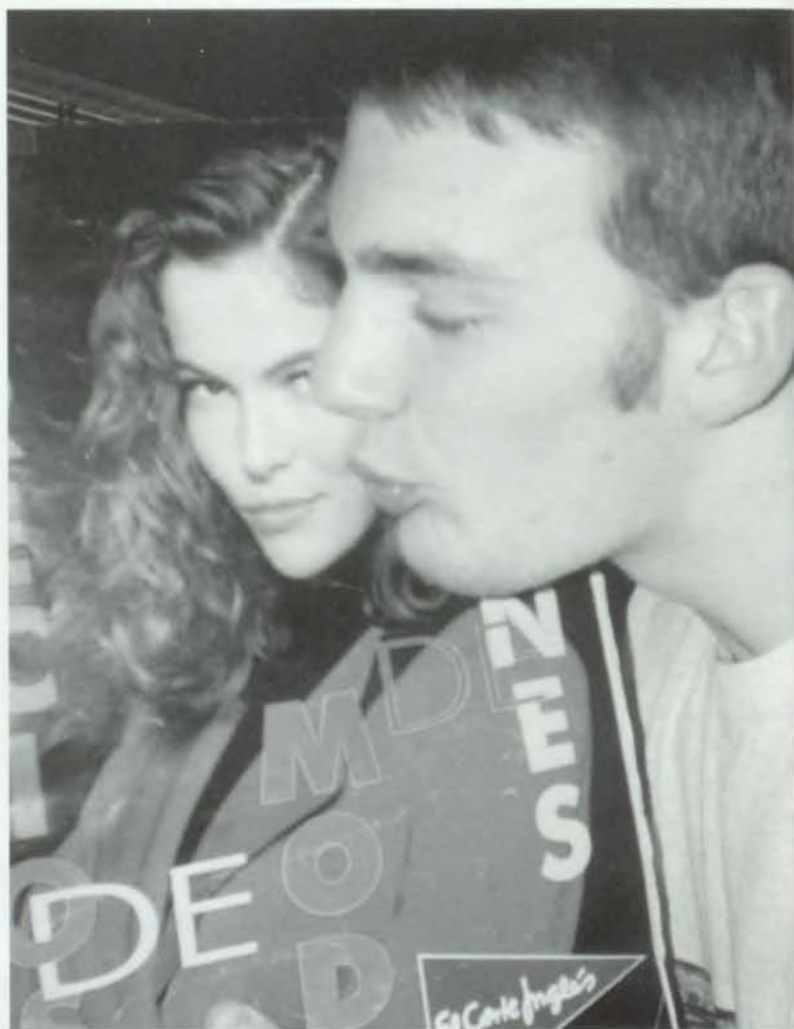
*Making a Difference*  
"Spanish Club was a great opportunity to be educated about different cultures by eating at the restaurant, and watching movies so you're having fun by doing something educational."

Junior Kim Grimes



*Chow Down*  
Seniors Kristy Wells and Marissa Wash share a box of Spanish Frosted Flakes. Tasting ethnic foods was one way that club members studied other cultures.

Photo By: Lauren Stewart



*Pucker Up*  
Junior Garrett Damron dreams of meeting Latin women. Spanish Club members spent a lot of time reading Spanish magazines during routine meetings.

Photo By: Lauren Stewart







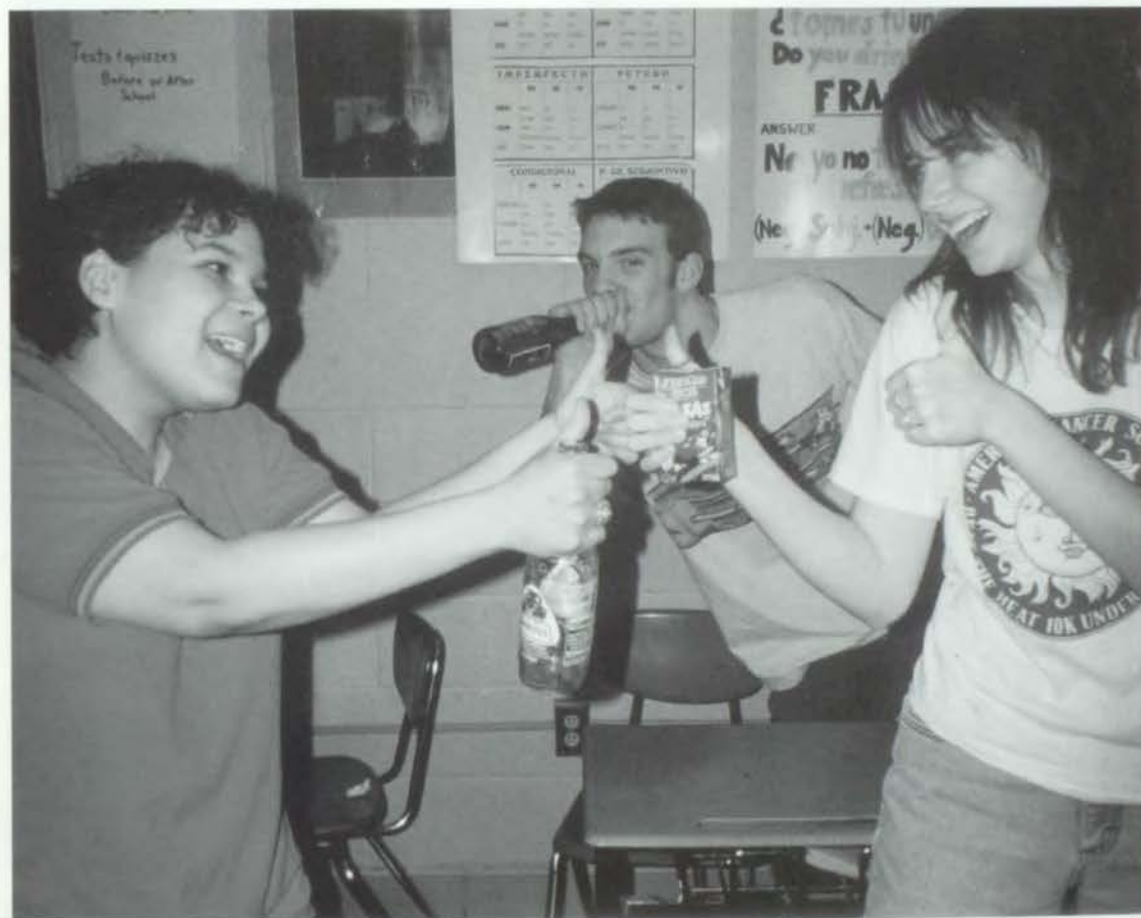
The map of Spain is a familiar sight in Senora Carol Zagorniak's room. Spain, along with several other Spanish-speaking countries, were studied by Spanish Club members. History, as well as cultural differences, were discussed.

Photo By: Lisa Sorensen

### Boosting Membership

At eighth grade orientation, Spanish Club members encourage the future freshmen to join. The club offered open arms to any high-school member interested in Spanish-speaking cultures.

Photo By: Jessica Brooks



### Arts & Crafts

Senior Pete Gillespie displays the arts and craft skills of the Spanish Club members. Members made Guatemalan "worry dolls" out of yarn and clothes pins.

Photo By: Lisa Sorensen

### Bottom's Up

Sophomores Jill Stempleman and Molly Gillespie, along with Junior Garrett Damron experience Spanish culture first-hand by tasting non-alcoholic Sangerias, a popular Mexican drink. Students were eager for each chance to experience the food of another culture.

Photo By: Lauren Stewart

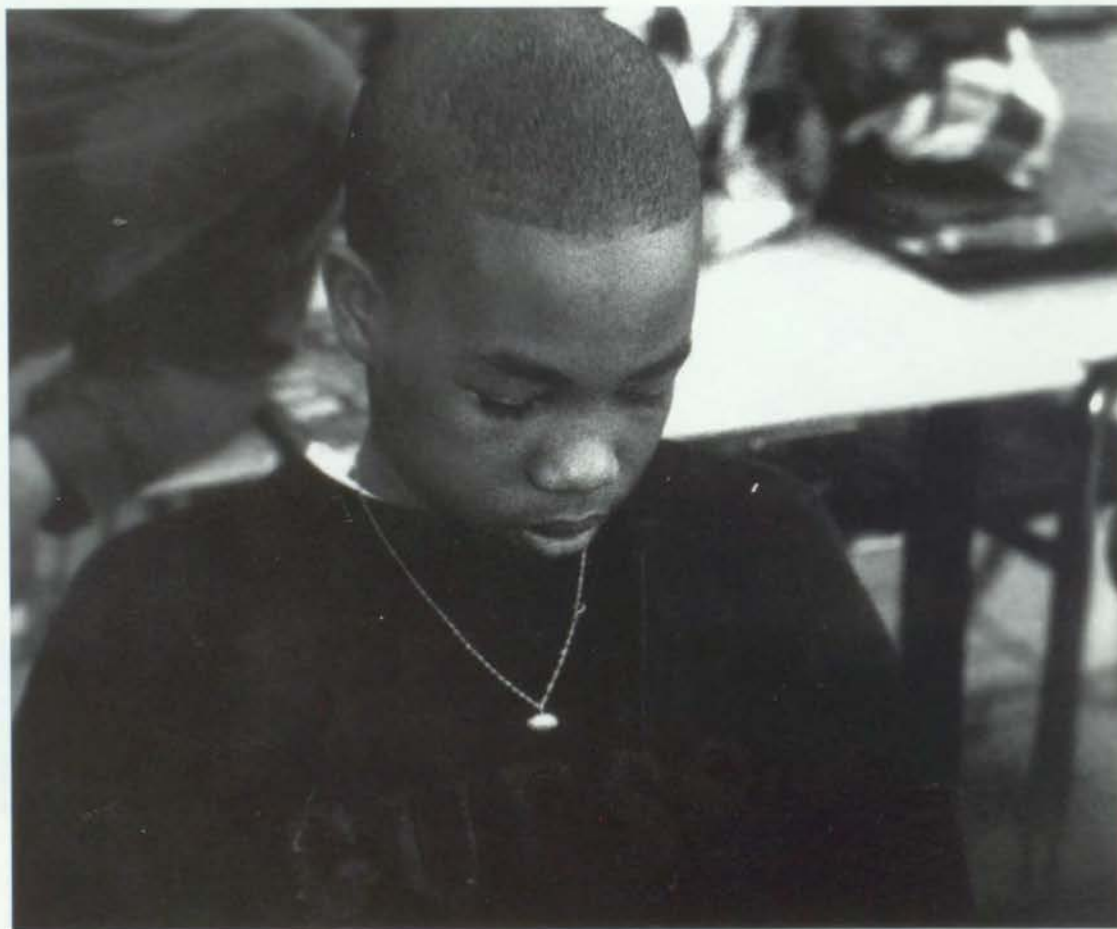


*The French Experience*  
Students listen to French Club Sponsor Robert Bonsasa give a French assignment. Learning a new language, although difficult at times, was exciting to most French Club members.

*Photo By: Jill Montgomery*

*Studying New Languages*  
Freshman Eric Haynes pours over his French spelling assignment. Sponsor Robert Bonsasa said he hoped to one day take his club on a field trip to Canada or France to gain exposure to a French-speaking culture.

*Photo By: Jill Montgomery*



# FRENCH Club

## PARLEZ-VOUS FRANCAIS, MOI AMI?

The French Club, to many members, meant time for special activities and fun.

"French Club was a fun group to be in and it also helped me speak more French beyond just in the classroom," said Junior Brian Afrisio.

As part of the learning, the French Club planned many social trips such as eating at a French restaurant and going to see a movie in French—*Le Petit Prince*. Members said they enjoyed the chance to become familiar with a new language and culture.

"The whole thing (field

trips) was very exciting, but it took a long time to plan it all," said Tiffany Van Hook, junior.

Additionally, the club kept busy with more conventional activities. These activities included

participation in both Homecoming and the Spring Fling.

"Homecoming was so much fun since we got to come up with a French theme," said Sophomore Leanna Carpen-

ter.

The French Club raised money with hopes of one day traveling to France or to Canada.

"We all wanted to go to France, but the fundraising didn't go too

well," said Junior Amy Loss.

Although the French Club was unable to go to France, they did purchase some movies. These movies included the French version of *Clueless*.

"It was hard to figure out what the movies meant unless you had seen them in English first," said Junior Kelly Colbert.

Whatever the activity, French Club members said they enjoyed the chance to experience some of the French culture. However, time spent with friends seemed to be the most important aspect of this, or any club.

"The club members got the chance to do things together and that was the best part," said Junior Kelvin Haynes.

Design By: NaTasha Walker  
Copy By: Dana Battin

**MAKING A DIFFERENCE**

*"THE CLUB AFFECTED ME ON LEARNING AND ENJOYING THE LANGUAGE AND THE CULTURE. IT ALSO GAVE ME A CHANCE TO EXPLORE ALL SIDES OF THE FRENCH CULTURE."*

*Senior Courtney May*



### New Friends

French Club Sponsor Robert Bonsasa helps a student with a French assignment. Bonsasa, originally from French-speaking Zaire, enjoyed his first year at Center as French instructor.

Photo By: Jill Montgomery



## Hangin' Out

German Club members Junior Eric John and Seniors Graham Brown and Eric Lau hang out with students of the same exchange.

Photo By: Lisa Sorensen



## Jet Lag

Senior Rob Anderson looks tired after a long trip from Hamburg to Munich, Germany. The large amount of time spent traveling was the one down side to the trip, said Anderson.

Photo By: Lisa Sorensen



# German Club

## Members get a taste of European culture

AUFRIEND! Translation: Exciting.

That's how the German Club started off the year. They were looking forward to many new activities, including International Cafe, the highlight of the year. International Cafe was a time when all of the foreign language clubs came together to exchange food, songs, dance and other cultural information.

"I couldn't wait for International Cafe this year so we could share our cultural experiences with other groups," said Senior Eric Boyd.

German Club focuses on cultural learning experiences. The club offered students a chance to improve their language skills, which was important to Sophomore Katy Boyd.

"I now know when my brother makes fun of me in German!" Boyd said.

Junior Lisa Sorensen felt German Club improved her skills also.

"I liked having a time

where I could talk to people in German outside of class. That really helped improve my speaking skills," she said.

*Making a Difference*  
*German Club - especially the trip to Germany, made an impression on both teachers and students.*  
*"We got the chance to further our German studies outside of the classroom."*

*Senior Member Eddie Smith*

Al though German Club was fun, much learning did take place.

Senior Crystal Koenig wanted

to communicate with other German Clubs and German-speaking students, so she

started a German Club Home Page on the internet.

"It gives students a chance to write to each other and find out what activities other classes are doing," Koenig said.

Club members were able to add items to the Home Page. Members were responsible for helping update the project.

It's a lot of work, but Wir haben viele!" said Sorensen. Translation?

"We're having fun!"

Design By: Heidi Hamilton-Brake  
 Copy By: Rebecca Piggee



## Foreign Land

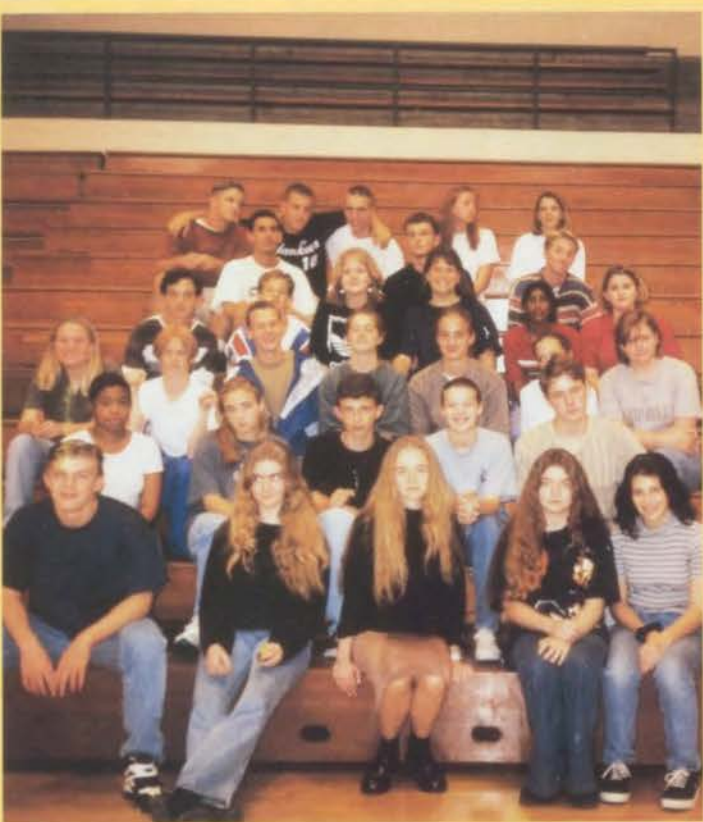
Junior Eric John enjoys a breezy day with German exchange students. John said he enjoyed the experience of traveling abroad.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*

## Nap Time

German Club Sponsor Claudette Bartle rests after an exhausting day of searching for the Hard Rock Cafe in Berlin, Germany.

*Photo Courtesy By: Eric John*



## German Club

German Club: Row One: Brant Campbell, Jasmine Griffith, Kachina Griffith, Amber Griffith, Katy Boyd Row Two: Erica Graham, Cassie Grantham, Stephen John, Erin Anderson, Jason Sparks Row Three: Lindsey Weaver, Jeff Hill, Randy Green, Monica Shipman, Ginger Daniel, Shannon Schefferman, Heather Johnson Row Four: Michael Damiel, Nicholas Schefferman, Theresa Self, Nichole Henderson, Mary Ajarapu, Lisa Sorensen Row Five: Eddie Smith, Eric John, Pete Davis Row Six: Kurtis Green, Graham Brown, Andrew Vleisides, Kori Crawford, Brandi Cason



## New Friends

Kori Crawford enjoys making new friends on the German Exchange. She enjoyed spending time with her new-found friend, Arne Streglich.

*Photo by: Lisa Sorensen*



### HOME GAME FEVER

Senior girls Mubeena Siddiqi, Amy Kearney and Missie Brittain watch the football field with interest at a home game. Students enthusiastically supported the Yellowjacket football team with hopes of going to State.

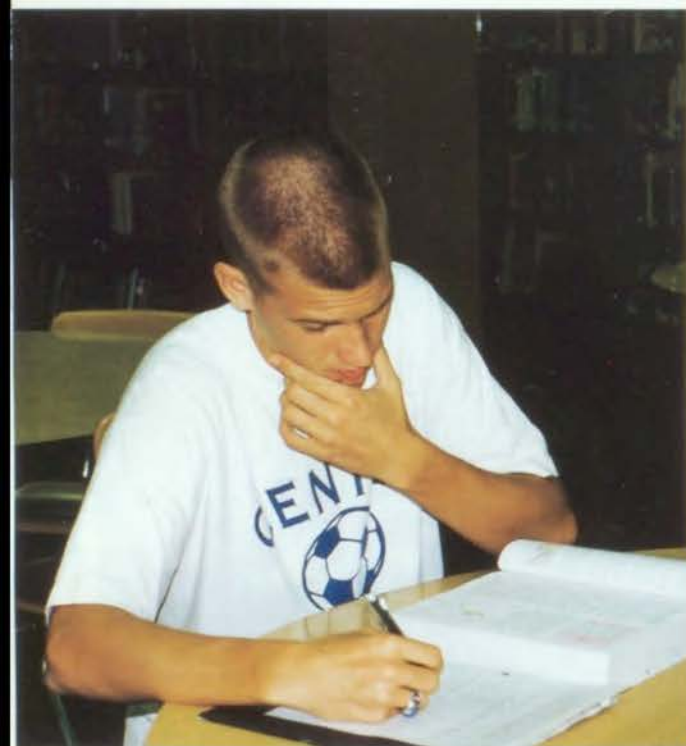
*Photo By: Jessica Brooks*



### HOMECOMING CELEBRATION

Seniors Josh Howard, Alexa Vleisides, Missie Brittain and Kori Crawford wave to the crowd on the senior's Homecoming float. The senior float won first place in the contest.

*Photo By: Jackie Howard*



### FLASHIN' A SMILE

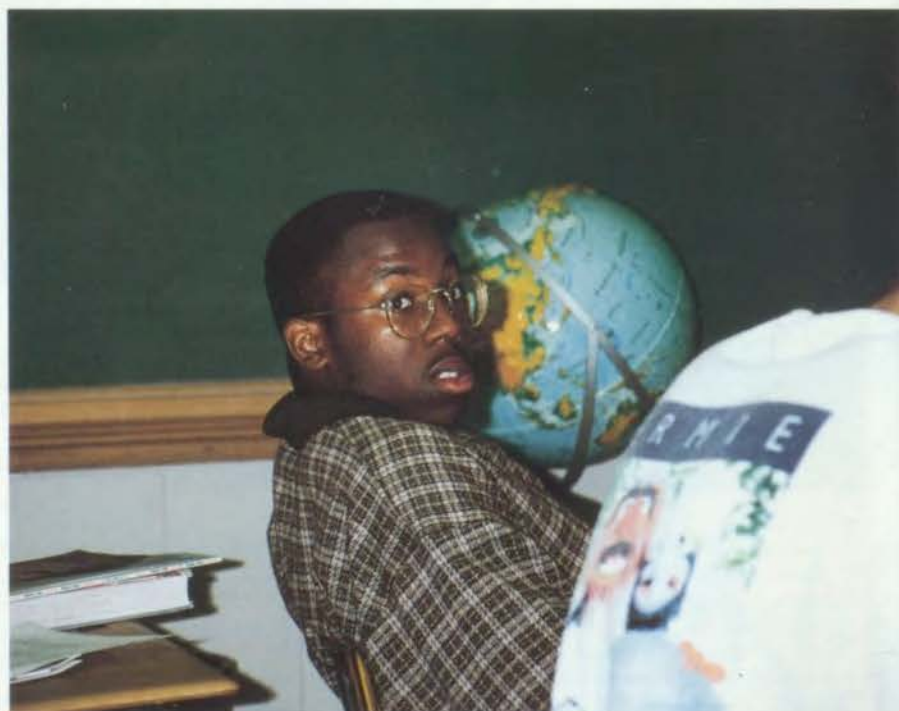
Senior Madison Smart studies intently in the Media Center during a T.A. (teacher's aid) period. Students took advantage of time during these periods to study and finish homework assignments.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*

### ARE YOU TALKING TO ME?

Senior James Amerison is distracted from his government lesson. Amerison, who planned to go to college, took his academic studies seriously. He was one of two Missouri students given a prestigious award based on academic and personal excellence.

*Photo By: Josh Howard*



# LASTING IMPRESSIONS

After going to school for years, seniors began to wonder when it would end. But for this class, the learning process extended beyond school.

Each day the world became more advanced, so students adapted to the changes the best way they could - through school.

Not every student is college-bound. Some students made the most out of what was offered to them by attending Joe Herndon's Vocational School.

"When I graduate, I will have received a state certificate as a certified nurse's assistant, and three extra high-school credits," said Senior Arlene Roberts, who attended vocational technical school in the health-services area.

Others waited until after graduation before focusing on a career.

Senior Paul Lillis planned to attend Southwest Missouri State University in Springfield and major in landscape design.

Senior Josh Patterson and Kevin Hill planned to major in business management, while attending Northern Arizona University, (NAU) in Flagstaff, Arizona.

"Kevin and I really love sports. After we graduate from college, we plan to open up a sports bar in Phoenix. We thought it would exciting to have a

job where you can enjoy yourself at work," said Patterson.

Senior Shana Love planned to pursue a career in international business and law.

"I think it would be fun to be able to speak to people all over the world. Plus I would be making a lot of money," said Love.

Each and every senior had a plan for bettering himself and for reaching success. In the next section of the book, several seniors are featured who made lasting impressions on all who knew them.

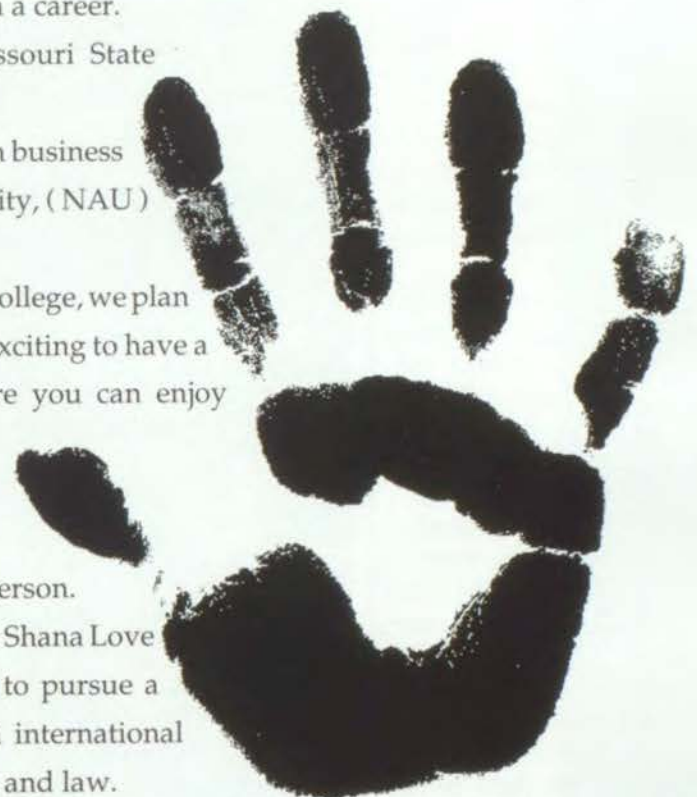
No matter how they did it, the leaders of tomorrow - the Class of '97 - made an impression while at Center Senior High School.



## SENIORITY IN THE HALLWAYS

Seniors Alexa Vleisides, Jessica Kaiser and Melissa Baker take a moment to chat between classes. Having just five minutes between classes was not a sufficient amount of time to go to lockers, the restroom and still make it to class on time, according to most seniors.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



*Design By: Heidi Hamilton-Brake  
Copy By: Daniece Moreland*



# HOOPIN' IT

## 6'9 SENIOR TAKES OVER

The first four starters of Center's varsity basketball team were introduced. Then came the fifth and final introduction.

"And at center, a 6'9 senior, number 44, Herb Brown," the announcer boomed.

Brown rose out of his seat, slapped hands with Head Coach Ed Fritz and jogged to the other end of the court to meet his teammates for their routine meeting before tip-off.

Brown, who has been a starter for the Yellowjackets varsity squad since his sophomore year, wasn't always a 6'9 scoring machine.

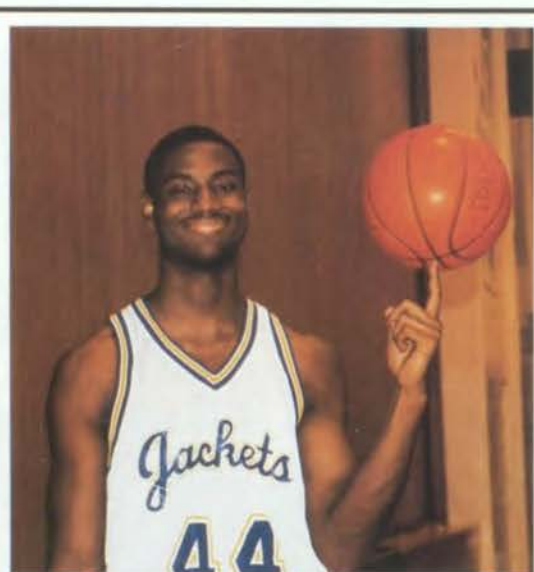
"I remember when we were in junior high, Herb was about 6'1 and his basketball skills were limited," said

Senior Guard Theo Williams.

During his senior year, Brown stood eight inches taller was a big part of the Yellowjackets' success. He led the 1996-97 team to an 18-6 record. That team also took the District and Sectional Championships, leading in rebounding and blocked shots. Brown was third on the team in scoring.

"I love playing because of the competition. The whole game is exciting," said Brown.

Brown was being heavily recruited by Colorado, Arizona, California State, St. Louis and Long Beach State. He tried hard to reach his team goals for the 96-97 season. These goals were to go undefeated, to win the State



Senior Herb Brown holds the center position for the Center Senior High School Varsity Basketball team. He works hard with the team to acquire victories and has his eyes set on a State championship.

Photo By: Lisa Sorensen

Championship and for his individual goal, he wants to be picked to the First Team All-Metro Team - made up of the five best players in the city.

"Herb is an outstanding player and I've enjoyed coaching him over the last four years. I'll miss him when he's gone," said Fritz.

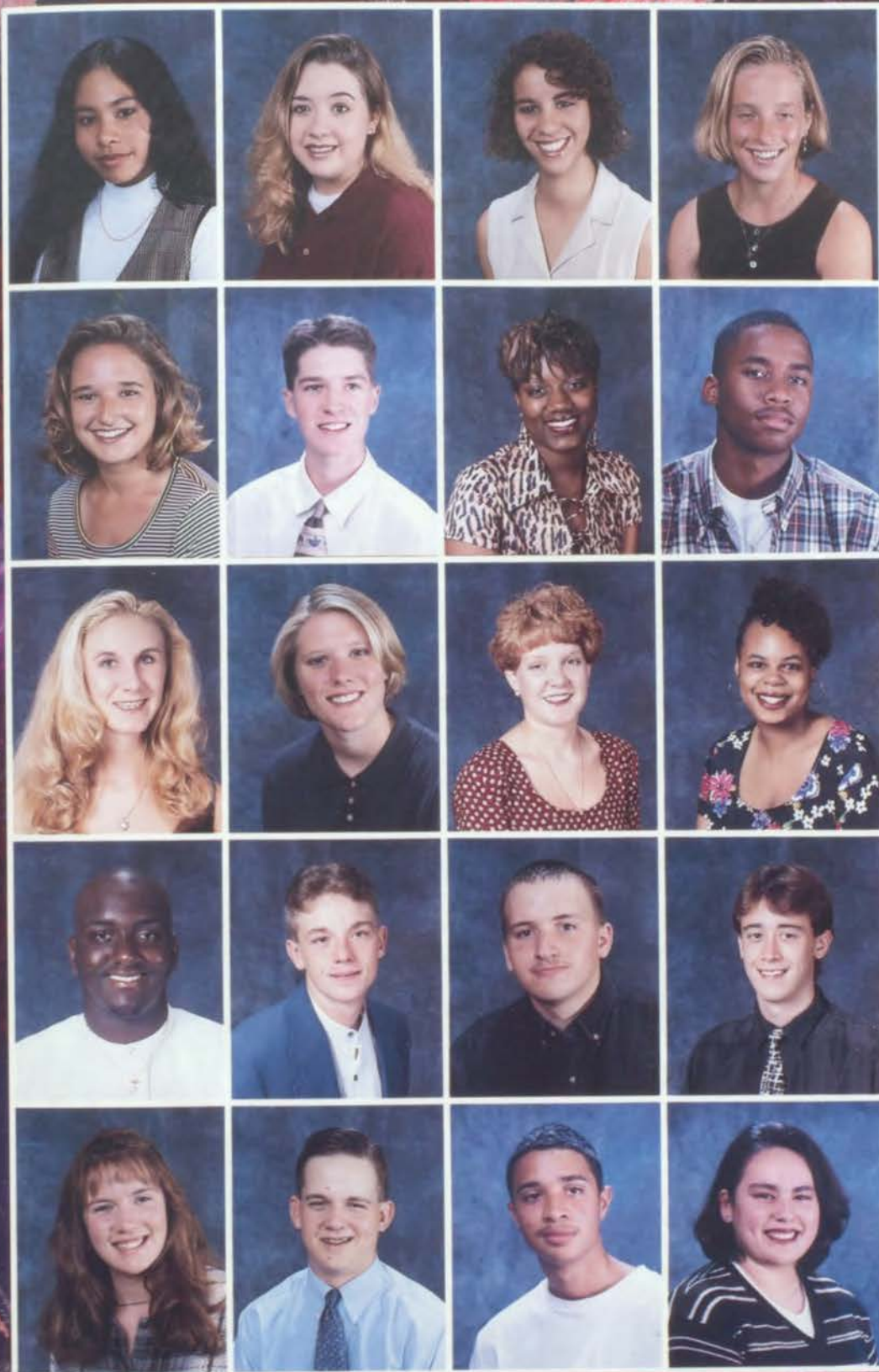
With the Jackets' outstanding line-up and Brown in the middle, a State Championship was definitely within reach.

Design By: Jessica Brooks

Copy By: Josh Patterson







James Amerison  
 Robert Anderson  
 Dana Atty  
 Melissa Baker  
 Kylene Batiz  
 Dana Battin  
  
 Sonya Baughman  
 Chris Berry  
 Angela Bigelow  
 Neil Blakemore  
 Genesis Blanks  
 Corey Blevins  
  
 Eric Boyd  
 Tim Brawley  
 Rachel Briner  
 Missie Brittain  
 Jessica Brooks  
 Cherie Brown  
  
 Graham Brown  
 Marcus Brown  
 Joe Byers  
 Michael Caldwell  
 Michael Canada  
 Joseph Cary  
  
 Joseph Craig  
 Jason Crane  
 Kori Crawford  
 Kenny Daniel  
 Richard Dekruyff  
 April Demasters



# SUCCESS COMES HARD

## DETERMINATION PAYS OFF

Success never came easy. Senior Missie Brittain knew that. However, Brittain made an impression on all Center athletes by keeping a positive attitude, even when hard times hit.

"Everything good in life comes from hard work," said Brittain, who participated in softball and volleyball.

In her junior year, Brittain received the title of Honorable Mention All-Conference in softball.

She played softball, in school and out for thirteen years, gaining much status and recognition for her athletic abilities.

However, the first wave of disappointment hit Brittain last Spring when due to a tight budget, softball was cut from the school's list of activities for the 1996-97 school year.

"I was very disappointed when I found out that I would not be able to play softball

again. I excelled in softball, and I was looking forward to having my own day of glory. Now that won't be able to happen," said Brittain.

Brittain swallowed her dis-

appointment, and that she would be able to play again in one month. But Brittain knew that by that time, volleyball season would have ended.

"When I found out that I had to have surgery, it devastated me. I wanted to play so badly," she said.

A week later, Brittain had surgery. However, her doctors realized they had made a mistake, and finally had some good news for Brittain. Her knee cartilage suffered no tear and she was back on the court two weeks after surgery.

"I've dedicated so much to these sports and now I have a second chance. I know I will play as hard as I can. I am being reviewed for college scholarships and I need to make up for the time I have already lost. I have a better chance of receiving one when I am playing, instead of sitting on the bench," said Brittain.

*Design By: Jessica Brooks  
Copy By: Ashley Prater*

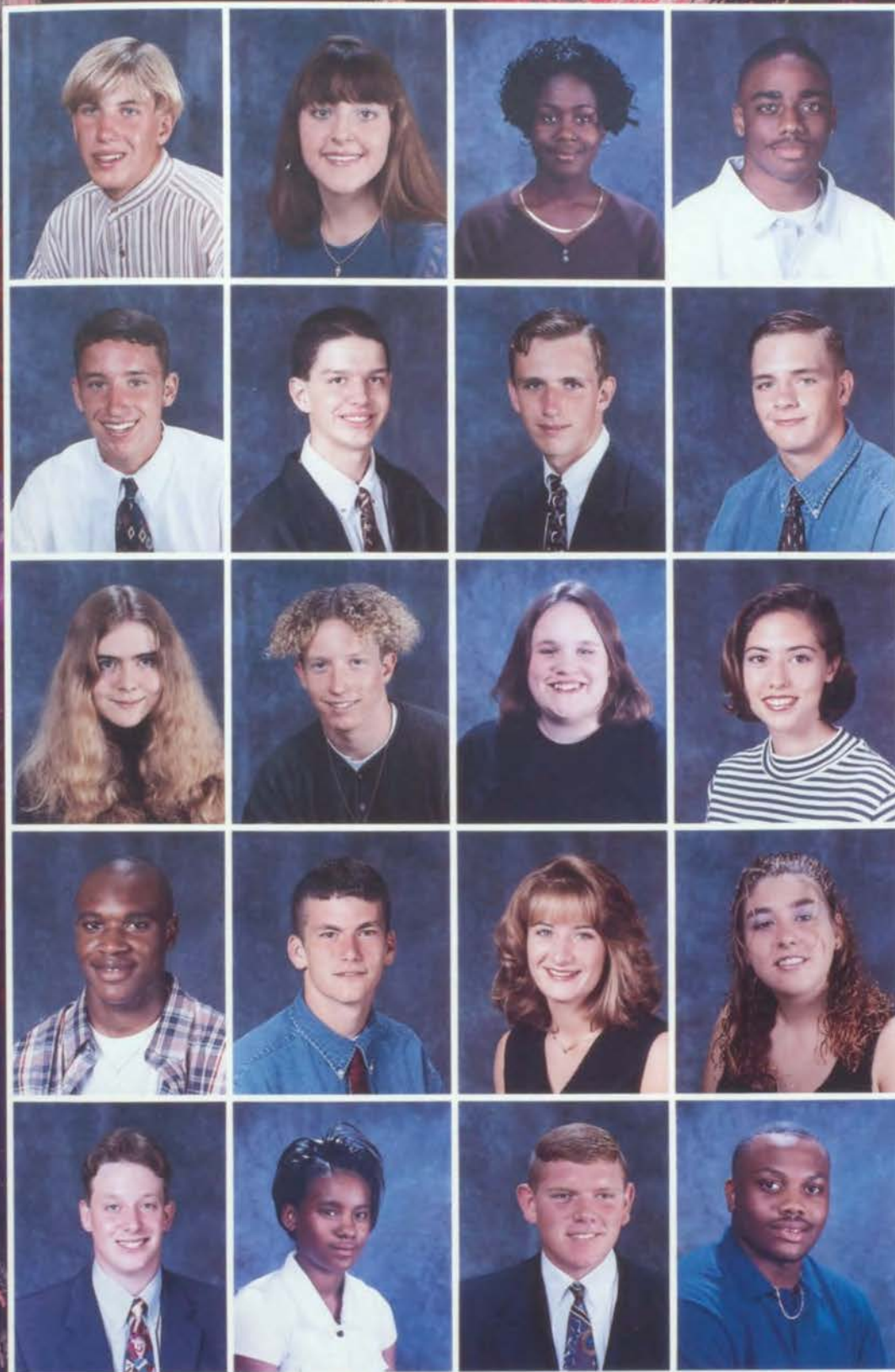


Success is no stranger to Senior Missie Brittain, but neither is disappointment. Brittain has put disappointment and negative attitudes behind her so she could stay focused to get herself ready for college athletics.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*

appointment, tried to put softball behind her and looked ahead to the up-coming volleyball season. The season began well, but soon, to her dismay, she injured her right knee. Doctors told her she needed surgery to repair torn





Brandon Dodd  
 James Druen  
 Nicole Duggan  
 LaSonia Ford  
 Ron Franklin

Betsy Fry  
 Brian Fuller  
 Clinton Gaither  
 Pete Gillespie  
 Kurtis Green

Derrick Griffith  
 Jasmine Griffith  
 Josh Gwilt  
 Lindsay Hake  
 Heidi Hamilton-Brake

Alice Harriman  
 Vincent Harris  
 Kevin Hill  
 Kristy Hillix  
 Elizabeth Hoie

Erica Hood  
 Ryan Hornbeck  
 Lynshaunte Hoskins  
 Christopher Howard  
 Ernest Howard



# GOOD TO G-O!

## A VIBRANT VOICE FOR LIFE

"Go, Go, G-o, G-o Jackets - Let's fight!" Fourteen voices cheered together with one common cause - school spirit.

Cheerleaders were essential in creating a vibrant high-spirited atmosphere at school. One of the voices heard on the squad for the past four years was Angela Bigelow's.

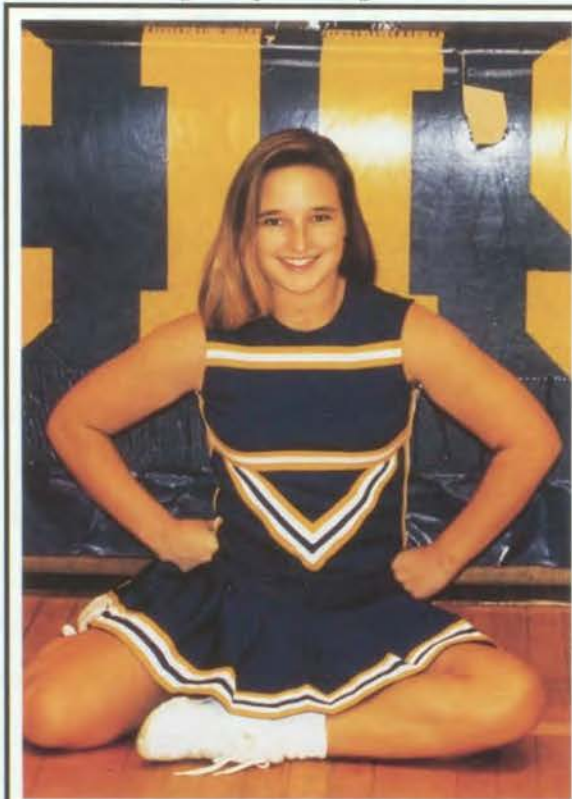
Bigelow, now a senior, started out on the junior varsity squad her freshman year. In her sophomore year, she made the varsity squad, and has cheered varsity ever since.

Bigelow was inspired by her family to pursue cheerleading throughout her high school years.

"It's a family thing," she said.

Her mother Midge Bigelow, was one of the original Chief's cheerleaders, known as the Chieffettes. Both of her aunts were cheerleaders in high school years as well. Although they were

cheerleaders in different decades, both Angela and her mother agreed that hours were spent creating, teaching, learning and practicing cheers.



Cheerleading means more to Senior Angela Bigelow than it does to most cheerleaders. Cheering has been in her family for several years, and Bigelow was proud to carry on the spirited tradition.

Photo By: Lisa Sorensen

"This year has been critical because we went to Regionals and State. The competition can be very successful on the squad," she said.

To some members of the squad, competition was also seen as a lot of fun and brought

many lasting memories.

"My most memorable experience was when everyone walked out of the gym after regionals. It was a time of relief and anxiety all at once. The whole event was really emotional," Bigelow said.

Bigelow hoped that the recognition of going to state would change the stereotypical image of being a cheerleader.

"Cheerleading is a sport. It's not as easy as people think. I think we proved that this year," she said.

Both the varsity and junior varsity squads added to their routines with new cheers and crowd-participation activities, Bigelow said.

Crowds often were encouraged to join in on cheers at games to show their school pride and spirit. Bigelow thought this was important.

"Spirit is what the game is all about. Winning just makes it even more enjoyable," she said.



Design By: Lauren Stewart  
Copy By: Rebecca Piggee





Josh Howard  
 Risa Johnson  
 Aideah Jones  
 Jenise Jones  
 Monique Jones

Ethan Jordan  
 Glen Juan  
 Jessica Kaiser  
 Amil Kearney  
 Gregg Keeney

Derek Kilgore  
 Brian King  
 Crystal Koenig  
 Jeffrey Landes  
 Eric Lau

Patrick Leach  
 Jamal Lee  
 Paul Lillis  
 Shana Love  
 Tamara Lunde

David Malyn  
 Lonnell Martin  
 Ivan Masterson  
 Crystal Matthews  
 Courtney May



# MARCHING ON

## IN STEP WITH HIS DREAMS

"Drum Majors, is your band ready?" a nameless voice boomed over the stadium public-address system, during one of the Marching Yellowjackets' home-game performances.

A small smile escaped from the usually-stern face of Senior Ethan Jordan. To him, the question was slightly amusing. In his second year as drum major, he felt his band was always ready.

"I pour my heart and soul into this organization," Jordan said. "Being the Drum Major of a successful band is a twenty-four hour job."

Indeed, the band, under the sixteen-year-old's care the past two years has had its share of success. The band took awards at the Blue Springs Marching Festival held at Blue Springs High School, as well as at the University of Missouri Homecoming parade competition held in Columbia.

"I've always taken competitions very seriously, because I believe that winning over other schools helps the band bond

done. Usually, that was because people didn't listen to instructions, and wanted to talk with their friends, instead of practice. I have zero tolerance for anything that takes away from the band and could hurt our performance," he acknowledged.

According to Assistant Director of Bands Tim Greenwell, "Ethan has led others through his musical excellence since he arrived as a freshman. As he leaves, I'm sure it will be said that he and the band program have been more successful due to his leadership."

Ethan plans on continuing his musical endeavors after high school at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

"Hopefully." He added with a spirited smile.

Carnegie Mellon is just one of many colleges that Jordan is considering. Whenever he decides to go in life, one can be sure that he will march on to the beat of his own drum.



Senior Ethan Jordan takes his job as drum major very seriously. He works hard to ensure success. Under his leadership, the band has won several awards. Nothing less than perfection is tolerated by Jordan.

Photo By: Lisa Sorensen

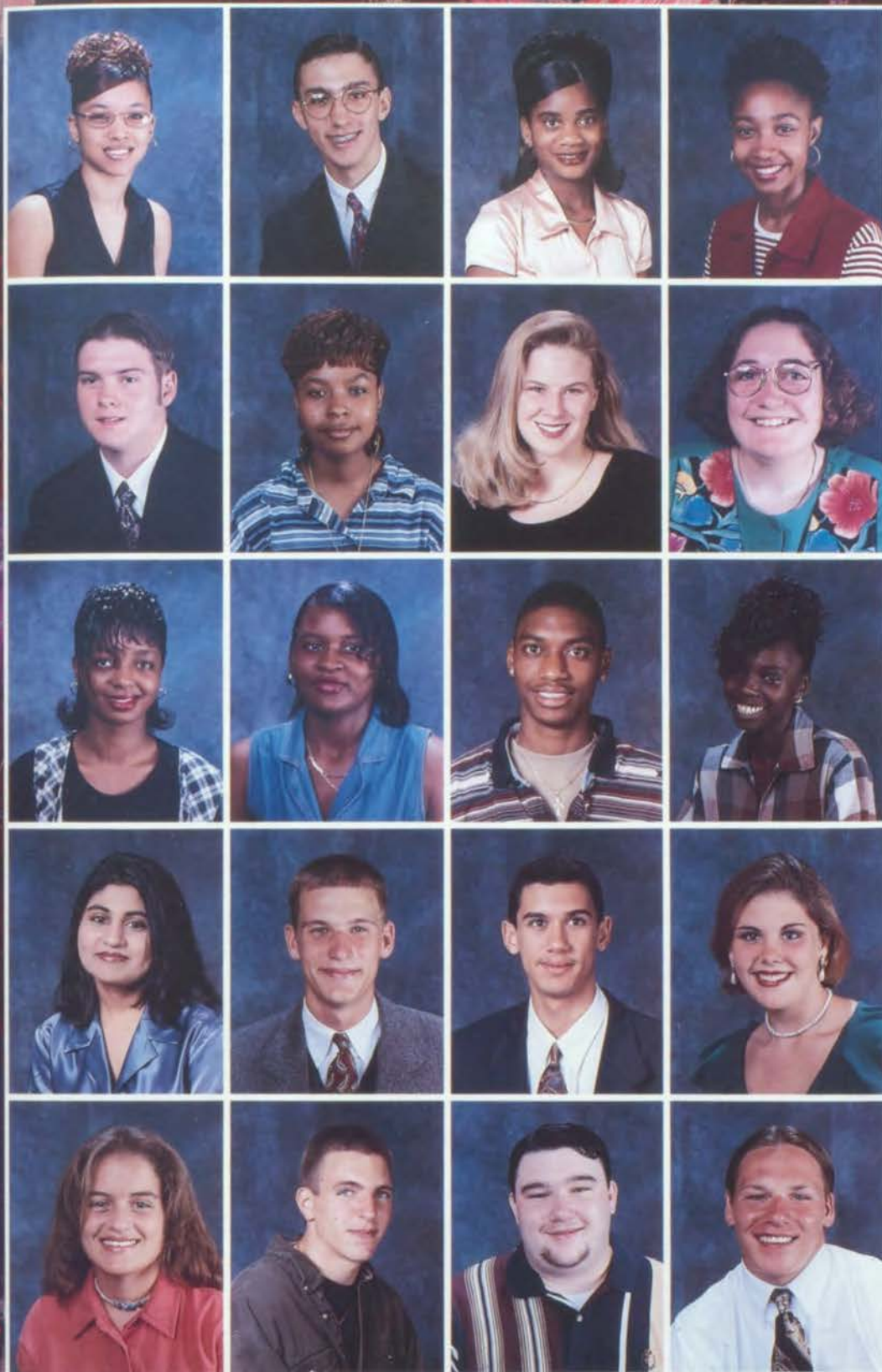
and instills pride in the organization," Jordan said.

However, being a drum major wasn't always a fun experience for Ethan.

"There were some days when nothing I wanted to accomplish with the band was

Design By: Lauren Stewart  
Copy By: Josh Howard  
and Rebecca Piggee





Angela Mays  
 Martina McHenry  
 Rick Milone  
 Kimberly Miniefee  
 Danience Moreland

Nicole Morrow  
 Josh Patterson  
 Deandra Perkins  
 Kristen Reaves  
 Kathy Rice

Arlene Roberts  
 Tanika Roberson  
 Billee Runnels  
 Michael Russell  
 Kyna Satterwhite

Kevin Schwert  
 Mubeena Siddiqi  
 Madison Smart  
 Edward Smith  
 Rayna Smith

Stephen Stewart  
 Alexa Vleisides  
 Andrew Vleisides  
 John Watson  
 Michael Weiland



# GOAL SETTING

## ACADEMIC SUCCESS IMPORTANT

Center honored those kind of students who were willing to go that extra length and accept the challenge of expanding their knowledge. Senior Pete Gillespie went that extra length and excelled academically.

Gillespie noted that his outlook on school changed some when he became a freshman. He had always been an honor student, but once in high school he focused on other aspects of school in addition to academics.

Gillespie said he prepared well to meet the challenge of college.

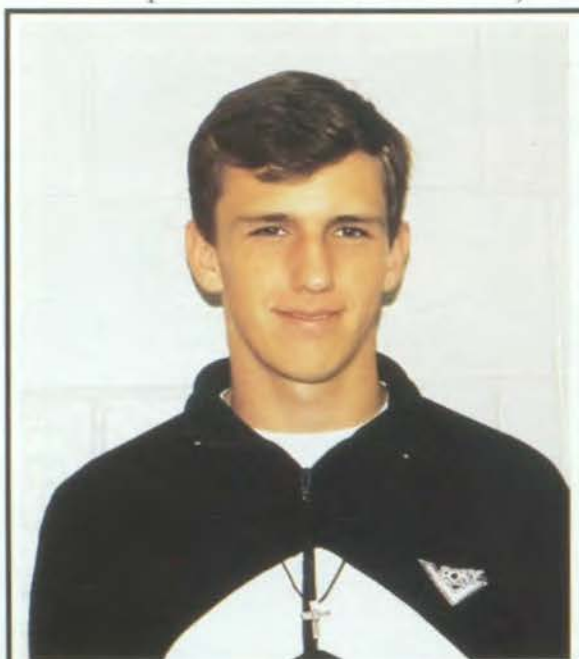
"I think my upper-level classes have been helpful, especially in preparation for when I go off to college," he said.

Gillespie noted that he had one primary goal all throughout high school.

"I always made sure that I maintained good grades and that all of my required work was done," Gillespie said. "I have a unique perspective on my classes and I see the opportunities available. Without all of my classes, I don't think that I would be

ready for the future."

Gillespie also realized the



Senior Pete Gillespie makes academics a priority in his life by studying two to three hours a night. He said to do well in college, he will work hard and study.

Photo By: Lisa Sorensen

importance of clubs and organizations in relationship to academic success. He was on the Academic Team, in Spanish Club, Quill and Scroll and National Honor Society.

Wise time management was the key to being so involved, said Gillespie.

"It used to be hard to manage

my time because some things were just too hectic, but I made it through those problems," he said.

In addition to being involved in clubs, he was also the co-editor of the school newspaper *The Searchlight*. In addition to that, he played soccer and other outside sports.

"I play soccer because it gives me a good feeling after being in school all day long. It gives me a chance to associate with my friends," Gillespie said.

Gillespie made a conscious effort

to put education first.

Whatever the class, sport or club, he recognized that involvement and dedication were the keys for achieving success. He also noted that working with friends helped him succeed.

Design By: Heidi Jo Hamilton-Brake  
Copy By: Dana Battin



In A.P. Government and Politics, seniors use their class time efficiently. Students said they felt like the key to success was to work hard and not waste time.

Photo By: Josh Howard







Sara Weilert  
 Kristina Wells  
 Latoya Wells  
 Emmanuel West  
 Alysia Williams



Tonique Williams  
 Dathan Wilson  
 Ross Wiseman  
 Kevin Worts

## 1997 SENIORS NOT PICTURED

Matthew Allen  
 Kie Janay Bartee  
 Jennifer Blayton  
 Charita Brent  
 Monique Briggs  
 Herbert Brown  
 Brandee Campbell  
 Chad Chaney  
 Thomas Courtney  
 Joseph Cunningham  
 Larry Douglas  
 Christopher Doyle  
 Latoi Ellis  
 Angela Fitzsimmons  
 Curtis Franklin  
 Eric Frazier  
 Kary Frazier  
 Rudiana Frazier  
 Sharina Gaston  
 Sean Hazel  
 David Hicks

Previn Hinton  
 Kenyatta Jackson  
 Clarence Jagers  
 Henry Johnson  
 Elliott Jordan  
 Casey Knickerbocker  
 Kristal Manley  
 James Martin  
 Marie Martin  
 Charles McDowell  
 Quiana Medlock  
 Andrew Orsted  
 Rebecca Piggee  
 Zanomonia Pope  
 Sanetta Pryor  
 Derrick Threadgill  
 Willie Vaughn  
 Theapiles Williams  
 Marissa Wash  
 Jonathan Young

Seniors Madison Smart, Pete Gillespie, Ross Wiseman and Rick Milone listen to the band Noel perform. The four agreed that they liked to listen to the words because songs have more meaning if one can identify with what is being said.

*Photo By: Jackie Howard*



# POWER IN WORDS

## DEBATE ENCOURAGES EXPRESSION

Achievements were made, awards were presented, partners were chosen and opportunities to expressing oneself were given.

These experiences were familiar to Amy Kearney and Mubeena Siddiqi, through involvement in debate.

Siddiqi noted that debate was useful for school involvement.

"It's given me the chance to become more confident, to speak around other students and it has also allowed me to be involved in school more," she said.

Debate allowed Kearney and Siddiqi the opportunity to express themselves individually and as debate partners.

Kearney said, "I like the chance to share my opinions with others about important issues."

Both Kearney and Siddiqi said they each had their reasons to join debate.

Siddiqi said, "I was very talkative in middle school and I always had an opinion."

In contrast to Siddiqi,

Kearney said she just felt influenced to do it from other experiences.

"I've always had really great

Siddiqi and Kearney were focused more on the future than on winning. They looked at debate as a way into college. As Siddiqi explained, debate provided important techniques in public speaking and research skills.

"Debate was an advantage because it helped me in other classes and prepared me for the future," she said.

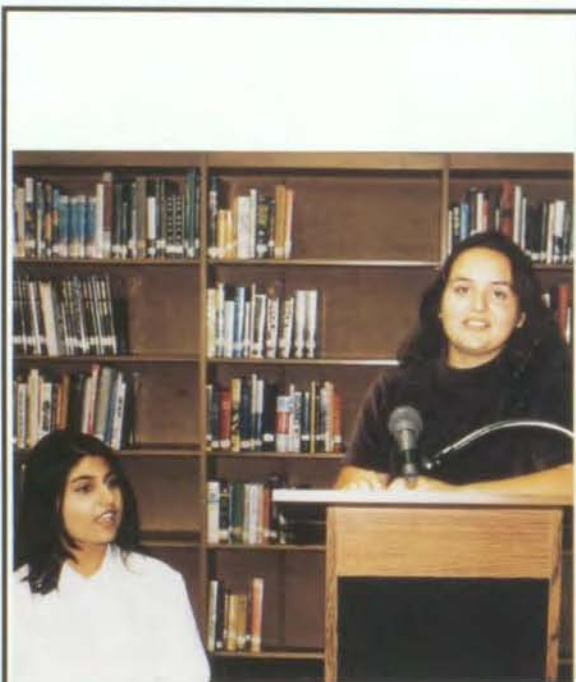
Along with all the hard work, fun was a part of debate, too.

"I got to be partners with someone who was a lot of fun and that made it an even better experience," said Kearney.

In debate class, Siddiqi and Kearney learned to work together. It wasn't until their sophomore year that they became debate partners. Siddiqi noted that she sensed that they were going to be great together.

"We have such different talents that when we put our talents together, we make a great team," she said.

*Design By: Heidi Jo Hamilton-Brake  
Copy By: Dana Battin*



Debaters Amy Kearney and Mubeena Siddiqi, both seniors, practice their debate for an upcoming tournament. Debate members put much time and effort into their final cases.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*

public-speaking experiences, so when I got to high school I thought it would be a great advantage for me to do debate," she said.





Seniors Missie Brittain, Heidi Hamilton-Brake, Kylene Batiz, Alexa Vleisides, Kristy Hillix and Alice Harriman pose for a group shot after school. Students agreed that finding their friends after school was important in catching up on the day's news.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*

Graham Brown, senior, pauses for a moment to take in the scenery while outdoors. Students said they took advantage of the warm days in the fall whenever possible before the cold weather hit. Outside activities ranged from an organized game of football to a simple walk in the park.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



Josh Patterson, senior, receives a friendly hug from Junior Katrina Byndon during class. Hugs seemed to be the most appropriate form of affection among friends at school.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*

Summer offered plenty of time for friends to do crazy things together. At Beaver Lake, in Arkansas, Seniors Alice Harriman and Kristy Hillix jump into the cold water. The two agreed that the cliff looked a lot higher standing at the top looking down, than it did from the water.

*Photo By: Bill Hillix*



# MEMOIRS OF FRIENDS

## WARM MEMORIES LAST

Memories are the key to the past. Over twelve years, the Class of 1997 created many lasting moments.

In kindergarten, Center students met for the first time, and began friendships that would last a lifetime.

Senior Angela Bigelow recalled the first friend she made in elementary school.

"I walked in on the first day and I didn't know anybody. The first person I saw was Kylene Batiz. We immediately became friends," Bigelow said.

In middle school, all four elementary schools were brought together for the first time. With the addition of so

many new faces, students made many new friendships. Along with these new friendships came the strengthening of old ones, but also the sad departure of others.

As high school began, friendships again changed in many ways. Many students who were in the Center District since elementary school left for other schools.

"After we graduated from eighth grade, the majority of my friends from elementary school left for other high schools. This was sad, but it enabled me to meet more people who I might not have taken the chance to get to know otherwise," said Kristen

Reaves.

However, the class of 1997 did gain quite a few new faces to compensate for the loss of those who left.

And as usually happens when people grow and change, friendships that were once strong, grew weaker, and some even fell apart as the years passed. Rivals who once hated each other found themselves growing into fast friends.

The Class of 1997 will cherish the memories of school and friends forever.

*Design By: Jessica Brooks*

*Copy By:*

*Jessica Brooks and Josh Howard*

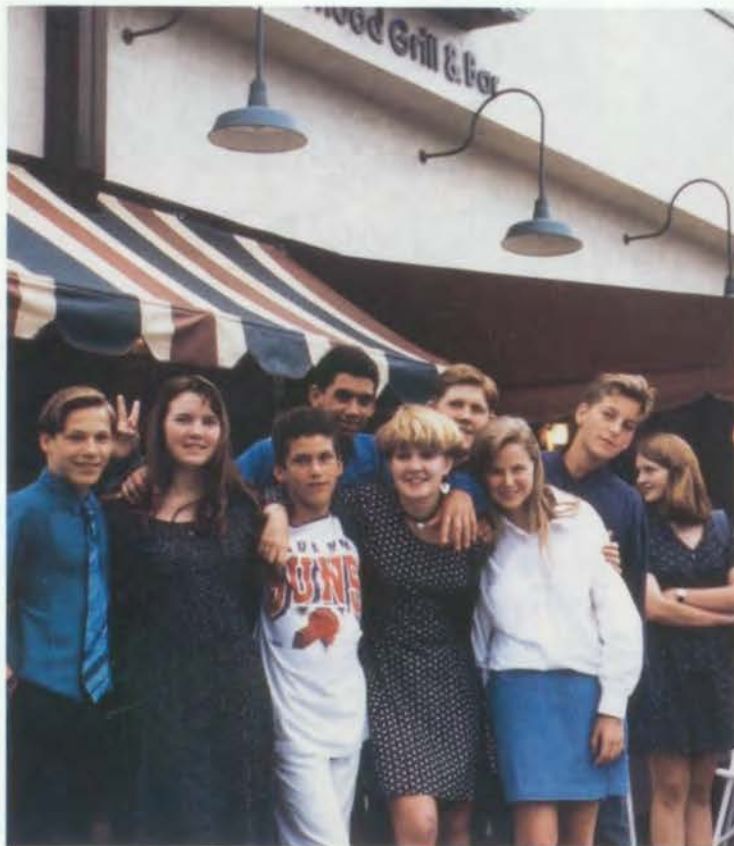


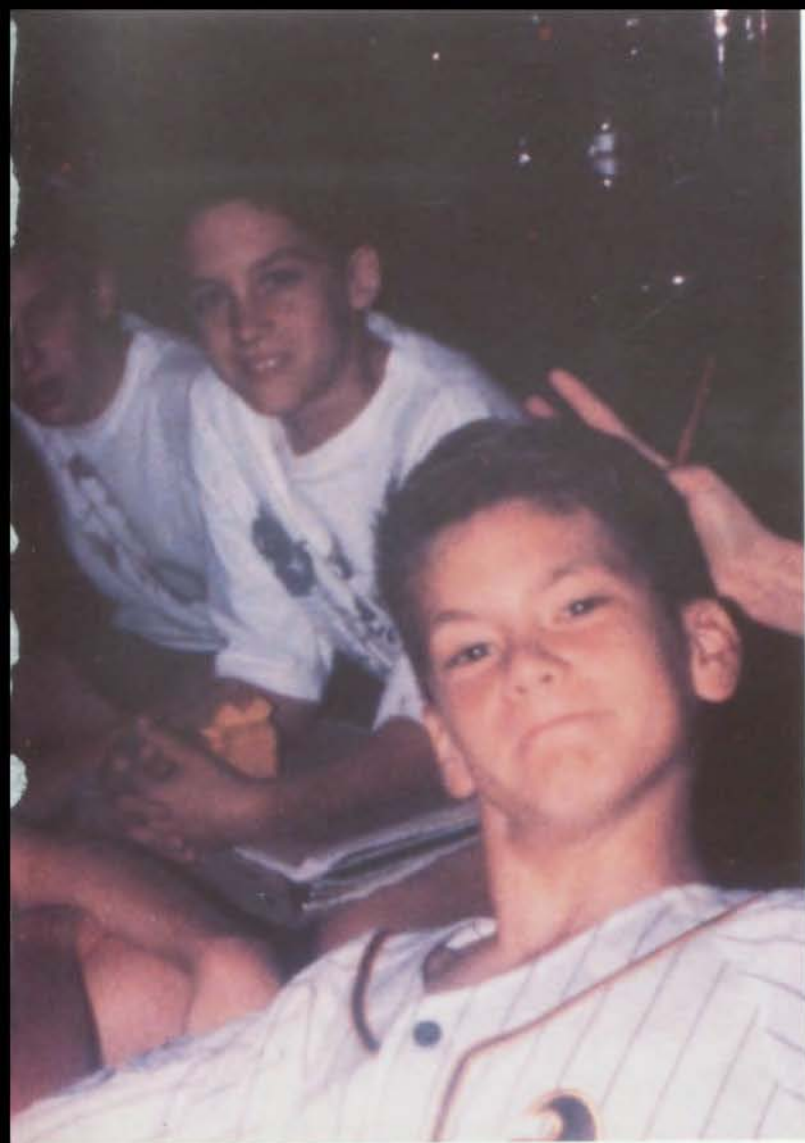
As their first year of middle school comes to an end, students enjoy free time outside on the last day of school. Seventh grader Eddie Smith enjoyed such a moment.

*Photo By: Kristen Reaves*

Eighth grade marked the end of one milestone and the beginning of another. Students celebrated eighth-grade graduation at Applebees.

*Photo By: Ron Brooks*





**S**eventh Graders Josh Howard, Jimmie Druen, Paul Lillis and Kevin Hill take a break from middle school band practice. Middle school brought kids from four elementary schools together for the first time.

*Photo Donated By: Josh Howard*

**E**ighth Graders Josh Howard, Eric Lau, Brian King and Sean Hazel relax beneath a tree in front of the middle school. "Middle school seems like such simple times compared to being a senior," Howard said.

*Photo By: Colleen McEvoy*



**B**irthdays were always a good excuse to party. Kristy Hillix, Brian King, Josh Howard, and Alexa Vleisides celebrate here with a watermelon fruit basket.

*Photo By: Linda Hillix*

**C**hamps brought sixth graders from all four elementary schools together. Angela Bigelow and Betsy Fry look on with interest.

*Photo By: Jackie Howard*





### A LITTLE HELP FROM MY FRIENDS

Sophomore Jeff Douglas checks his work against another student's paper. Douglas said being able to work together with his peers helped him understand his work better.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



### SHOWIN' HOMECOMING SPIRIT!

Freshman Naveed Siddiqi shows his school spirit. Throwing caution to the wind, he dared to wear pig tails during Homecoming Spirit Week.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



### HEADING OUTDOORS

Junior Mike Juan watches the Homecoming parade go by during a pleasant October afternoon. Juan said he thought that the outdoor pep assembly was a nice change from the past assemblies held in the gymnasium.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*

### PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

Freshman Brian Worts participates in a mock interview. Interviewing skills, resume writing and education requirements were reviewed to help students prepare for a career.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



# PRESSING ON

Making improvements toward excellence was a priority to the majority of students from the onset of the academic year.

Upperclassmen worked to make good grades and improve athletic abilities, while the freshmen had the additional pressure of being the youngest in the school. They faced the challenge of finding a place in which to fit.

"Freshmen had a hard time getting used to new surroundings - small lockers, more homework and many more stairs to face compared to the middle school," said Freshman Heather Blakesley.

Sophomores started the year with excitement, knowing they were no longer the "new guys". Being a sophomore had its advantages, according to Sedric Hibler.

"I get more freedom, but I also have to improve myself in cross country and on the drum line," said Hibler.

Some of the juniors were caught by surprise at the responsibility that went hand in hand with being an upperclassman.

"I am happy to be almost out of here, but I have too much homework," said Junior Stephanie Hunley.

Junior Colin Michael also had a lot to face. He concentrated on passing Trigonometry and getting his ceramic art into competition.

Teachers were also striving for excellence. They worked to achieve an A+ rating through the A+ Schools program. Teachers put in many after-school hours to work with students in both academics and sports. Students were appreciative that the

teachers actually cared about them. This dedication encouraged students to press on harder.

Administrators also looked for excellence. Principal Brian Schumann, along with Assistant Principals Cleo Washington and Robert Finger spent time getting to know students and helping them over any hurdles they came upon.

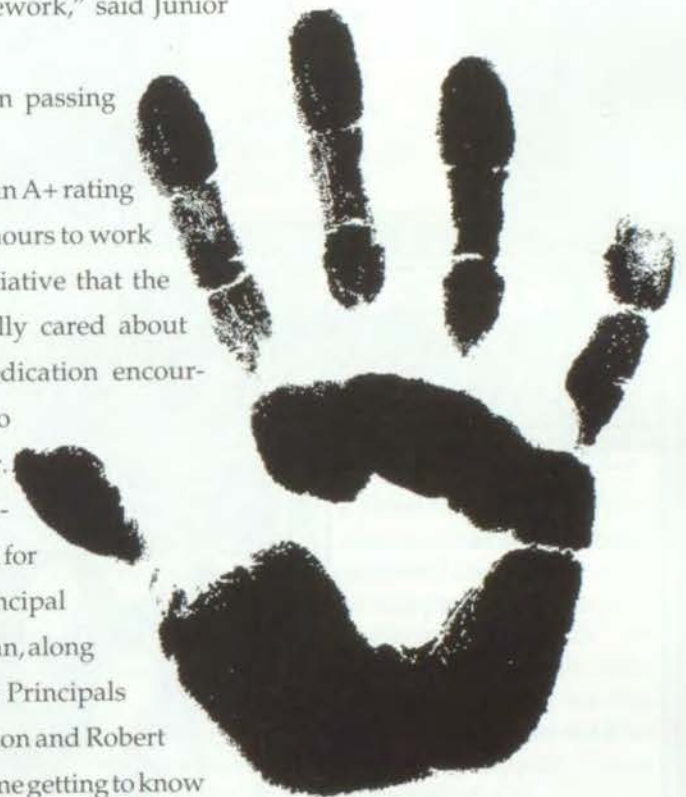
The air was electric with the excitement and eagerness of students, teachers and administrators who wanted to do the best job they could and make Center High School a force to be reckoned with. From the beginning of the year, it was clear that everyone was pressing on to greatness.



## HOW DO I LOOK?

Freshman Elaina Carullo checks her makeup between classes. Appearance was a top priority for most high-school students. Much money was spent on improving appearances from makeup to expensive designer clothing.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



*Design By: Heidi Hamilton-Brake  
Copy By: Danience Moreland*

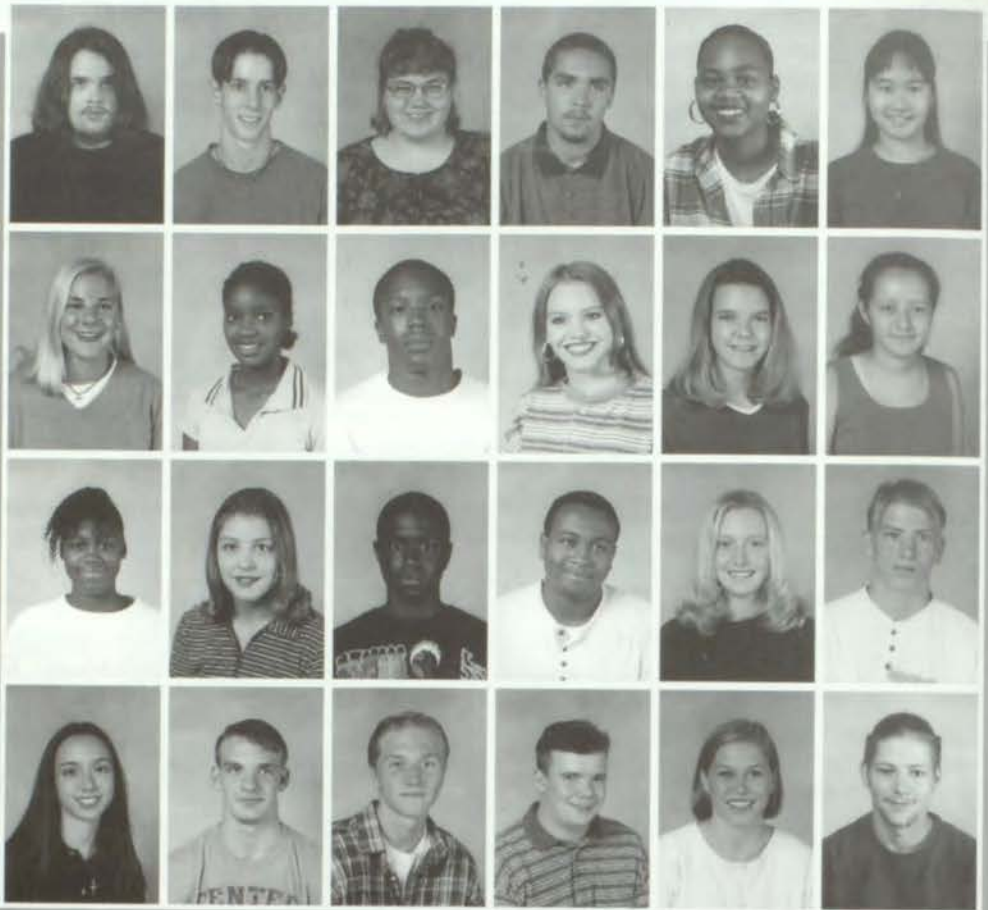


Brian Afrisio  
 Reid Anast  
 Kimberly Ashmore  
 Jeremy Atencio  
 Kippin Austin  
 Maria Balino

Melanie Blando  
 Katrina Byndon  
 Antwan Canady  
 Paula Carpenter  
 Brandi Cason  
 Gloria Chapman

Revina Cline  
 Kelly Colbert  
 Lemuel Coleman  
 Michael Collins  
 Lori Conrad  
 Kevin Corbin

Lea Corrison  
 Garrett Damron  
 Peter Davis  
 Jonathan Day  
 Mary Beth Doarn  
 Chad Dodson



# IMPRESS ME

What's was the big deal about being a junior? Several students cherished this year.

"I made a point to enhance my personal relationships with others."

*Philip Young*

"I loved finally being an upperclassman."

*Kimberly Grimes*

"I took heart in knowing I only had one year left before graduation."

*Heath Norton*

"Since this was my first year at Center, it was cool developing new friendships."

*Anthony Snorgrass*



### PLAYING WITH PRIDE

Mat Peterson and Christian Nord practice their percussion skills before a football game. The drum line took pride in setting off car alarms with their noise.

*Photo By: Josh Howard*

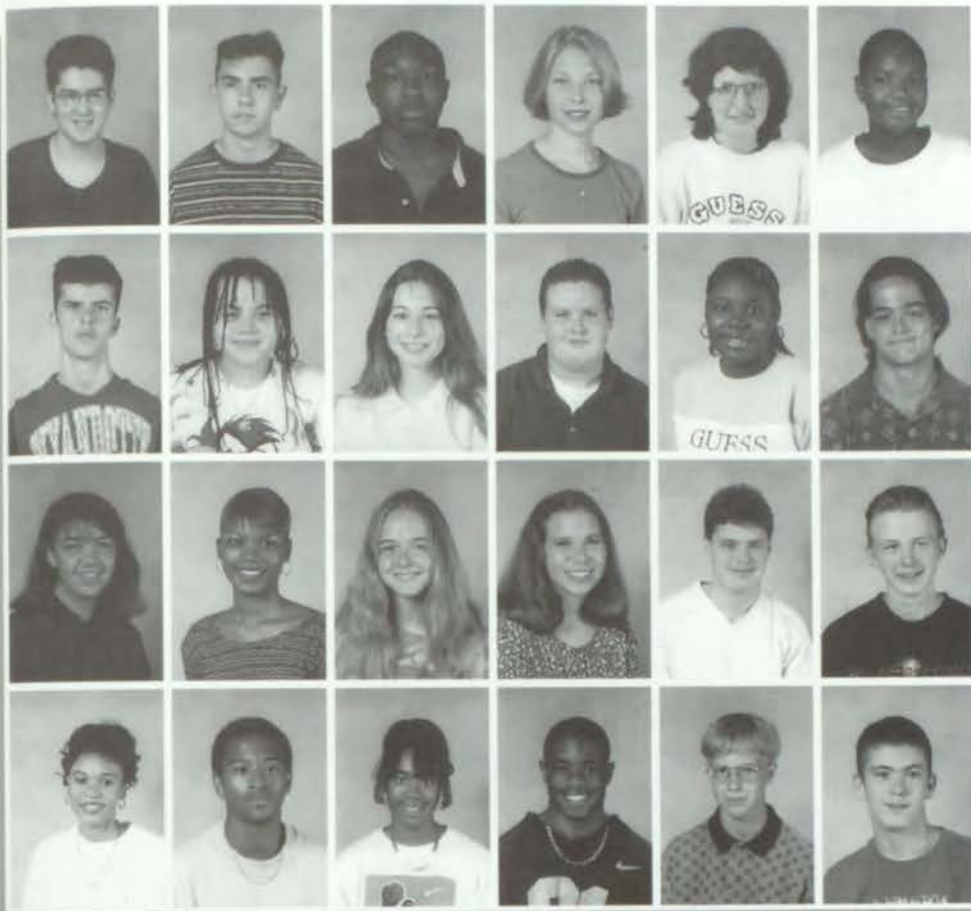
### PROCRASTINATION

Junior Lea Corrison uses her lunch time to finish Spanish homework. Sometimes that extra 35 minutes was all it took to catch up for the day.

*Photo By: Josh Howard*







Jeffrey Dungan  
 Jim Dvorak  
 Brian Edwards  
 Heather Erickson  
 Anna Fisher  
 Jessica Fleming

Ben Friend  
 Bethany Gammill  
 Lisa Gargotto  
 Chris Gilpin  
 Kajuan Gragg  
 C.J. Gray

Robin Greer  
 Tiffany Griffin  
 Kachina Griffith  
 Kimberly Grimes  
 Shane Grimm  
 Michael Grozinger

Julisha Hanks  
 Jason Harris  
 Quiana Harris  
 Kelvin Haynes  
 Kevin Hill  
 Steven Hill



# STRESSED OUT WHILE MAKING THE GRADE

Students found themselves pressing on toward academic excellence every chance they had. Studies helped to shape their lives, so when it came time to impress, students put their minds to the test.

"I try to make good grades so that I can get into a good college," said Kourtney Walton.

Grades were important to a majority of the students. They found themselves worried about their grade point averages, college admission, ACT tests and class rank. The more challenging a class was, the more benefit there was for the stu-

dent. Thus, several juniors enrolled in weighted courses.

"I am in honor classes for the first time, and it seems much harder than regular classes," said Lea Corrison.

According to many, homework during their junior year was a little different and more stressful than the relatively easier years as freshmen and sophomores. In addition to the increase in difficulty, students were increasingly reminded of graduation requirements.

"You have to make the grades if you expect to graduate on time," said John Perkins.

Putting school first often meant a lot of work at home.

"I have a lot more expectations now that I have weighted classes, and I never seem to have enough time for homework," said Lillian Pegelow.

Through hard work and preparation, some juniors were ready to take future challenges.

"I'm looking forward to becoming a senior. I think it's exciting to know that I am responsible enough to go to college," said Lea Johnson.

Juniors were pressed for time but still made lasting impressions.

*Design By: Heidi Hamilton-Brake  
 Copy By: Danience Moreland*



#### FRUSTRATION

Jim Dvorak loads his bookbag at the end of the day. Many hours of homework lay ahead of him, as shown by the frustrated look on his face.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*

#### WORKING FOR A CAUSE

Junior Scott Pickett works the concession stand at a home football game. Working the concession stands was the main source of income used to pay for Prom expenses.

*Photo By: Jessica Brooks*



## IMPRESS ME

Juniors reached the upperclassmen status and took the chance to reflect on their first three years of high school. What impressed them the most?

"The interest of students in extra-curricular activities."  
*Eric John*

"I'm impressed by the attention people pay in class. People care about their education."  
*Kim Grimes*

"The difference between middle school and high school impressed me the most."  
*Amy Loss*

"I like the diversity of the people in this school."  
*Kelly Colbert*

# PREPARING PROM BEHIND THE SCENES

For juniors, Prom was an event taken very seriously. The formal event was considered one of the highlights of the entire high-school experience.

The junior year marked the first year students were able to attend Prom without an invitation from an upperclassman. This privilege did not come cheap, however. Many behind-the-scene tasks had to be completed before the big night.

The juniors had the responsibility of raising money for Prom. Not only did they have to find a place

to hold the dance, they also had to choose the Prom's theme, and decorate accordingly.

"Prom is something I've been looking forward to for a long time and I'm happy I get to help organize it," said Junior Lauren Stewart.

Organizing this huge event took a lot of time, patience and hard work.

First, money to fund the event had to be raised. Money was raised two ways. First, juniors ran the concession stands at the home football and basketball games. A percentage of the food stands'

proceeds went to the Junior Class. Most of those proceeds went to cover Prom expenses.

Class dues made up the other portion of the money. Dues, although often disregarded by students, had to be paid in order to attend.

The juniors finished their monumental task by finalizing food and beverage lists, planning the music and putting up the decorations.

Seniors, who remember the work from the previous year, enjoyed the Prom given in their honor by the Class of '98.

*Design By: Jessica Brooks  
Copy By: Josh Patterson*





Charles Hosterman  
 Brandon Hughes  
 Stephanie Hunley  
 Clinton Huston  
 Harrell Jackson  
 Ahmad Jenkins

Anneka Jenkins  
 Eric John  
 Lea Johnson  
 Aaron Jones  
 Cassandra Jones  
 Javon Jones

Marcus Jones  
 Michael Juan  
 Angela Kartsonis  
 Donald King  
 Lauren Lewandowski  
 Richard Lofton

Sarah London  
 Amy Loss  
 Essence Mack  
 Allen Manning  
 Rika Martin  
 Leah Matthews

Melissa Mattingly  
 Crystal McMillin  
 Adam McMurry  
 Charles McNeil  
 Jason Mensing  
 Colin Michael

Tiffany Minx  
 Beth Mittlestadt  
 Jill Montgomery  
 James Morse  
 Darin Moss  
 Christian Nord

Mike Norman  
 Heath Norton  
 Lillian Pegelow  
 Nathan Peister  
 Kelly Perkins  
 Roshanna Perkins

John Peterson  
 Matthew Peterson  
 Heather Phelan  
 Kandice Phillips  
 Scott Pickett  
 Kevin Porter



Tamieka Powell  
 Ashley Prater  
 Travis Price  
 Sheila Ratliff  
 Eric Rhymes  
 Craig Robison

Dominic Rodriguez  
 Zachary Sage  
 Brian Schikevitz  
 Nick Scott  
 Brent Shelby  
 Carmelita Smith

Anthony Snorgrass  
 Lisa Sorensen  
 Karriem Spears  
 Montae' Spiller  
 Daniel Stevens  
 Rustin Steward

Lauren Stewart  
 John Strosnider  
 Jamie Svejda  
 Richard Thompson  
 Brandon Tischer  
 Anh Thi Troung

Tifany VanHook  
 Christina VanLeeuwen  
 Natasha Walker  
 Kourtney Walton  
 Jeanna Weibel  
 Willie Wilkins

Cedric Williams  
 Sophorina Williams  
 Nene Winters  
 Stacey Yoast  
 Philip Young



**CLASS UNITY**

Juniors Lisa Sorensen, Steve Hill, Charles McNeil and Mike Norman do their time in the food stand during a football game. Money made from the concessions went to defray Prom expenses.

*Photo By: Jessica Brooks*





#### SHOWIN' SOME STYLE

Kim Grimes shows off her stylin' new shirt. Expressing individuality through clothing was a common practice among juniors.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*

#### FRIENDS FOREVER

Juniors Kourtney Walton and Katrina Byndon are close friends through being members of the cheerleading squad. Squad members said the friends made through cheerleading were friends who would last a lifetime.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



## IMPRESS ME

Although they were not old enough to cast a vote in the 1996 Presidential Elections, members of the Junior Class were still greatly affected by the debates and election. The politicians who ran the country made good impressions on some.

"Bill Clinton is a good leader. He did a good job campaigning for the presidency. I was pretty excited when he won."

*Mike Norman*

Other students were more impressed with past leaders.

"Bob Dole was an okay guy, but I really liked Ronald Reagan. He had many good policies and ran the country well – even when he had Alzheimer's Disease. He had a disability, but still did a better job than many other presidents could ever do."

*Ted Cardos*

# RESPONSIBILITIES JUNIORS GROW UP

The party lasted until 4 a.m. – and it was a school night.

Many students dragged their tired bodies into class by fifth hour, and their homework was not done. After school, the after-school jobs were ignored, and naps were taken instead.

Teens often went through stages and as a result, some were labeled by others as irresponsible.

Juniors realized it was time to take more responsibility, and leave the immature stages behind.

As a whole, most juniors tackled more responsibility than they had in the past.

Tiffany Minx said she acquired more responsibilities when her junior year rolled around.

"People look up to me now that I am an upperclassman. I feel that I need to set a good example for the younger students," Minx said.

Pressure to excel at school nagged at many. Some regretted the fact that they did not take their studies more seriously.

"Now that colleges are going to be looking at us, I feel like it's my responsibility to get good grades," said Lauren Stewart.

Kevin Corbin and Kim Grimes both thought that hav-

ing more responsibility was not always fun, but did help them grow up.

It was good to have some responsibilities, but not too many they said.

Charles McNiel was worried about non-academic activities.

"It's my responsibility to make the freshmen's lives miserable. It's a big job, but somebody's got to do it," McNiel said.

Students did not always enjoy having more responsibility, but it was part of growing up that had to be dealt with.

*Design By: Jessica Brooks  
Copy By: Ashley Prater*



**JUNIORS  
NOT PICTURED**

Bryan Allen	Michael Montgomery
Manda Assel	Deisha Morris
Elita Banks	Shannon Mulvany
Michael Bell	Latrice Nichols
Billy Botts	James Nimrod
Shivon Bullock	Labron Norals
Yvette Canady	Daniel Parson
Ted Cardos	John Perkins
Kathryn Dancy	Joseph Redick
Damon Daniel	Leonard Reid
Antonio Donahue	Manpreet Singh
Markisha Edwards	Marcel Smith
Demetria Finley	Sean Smith
Shondell Flippen	La Quinda Stumon
Shawn Gordon	Robert Taylor
Howard Gray	Chiamaka Uzomah
Michael Haggart	Laura Vazquez
Josh Hall	Haile Webb
Lakeisha Jackson	Tashall Welch
Taquisha Jackson	Derrick White
Antonique James	Wendell Wilcher
Keela Jones	Terrell Williams
Hajah Kamara	Torance Williams
William Lacy	Bryan Wood
Tennille Lewis	Jason Young
Crystal Mitchell	

**SETTING AN EXAMPLE**

Craig Robison has a lot of responsibility as a section leader in the band. Sections leaders were expected to be role models for other band members.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*

**TAKING A BREATHER**

Peter Davis rests after 50 minutes of diligent work in class. Juniors began to take their academic responsibility more seriously as their senior year neared.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*





#### MONEY, MONEY, MONEY

An old proverb states that money is the root of all evil. However, according to Junior Philip Young, money was something teens could not do without.

*Photo By: Josh Howard*

#### SPLITTIN' COSTS

Juniors Charles McNeil and Mat Peterson decide who is going to pay for what. Both agreed that splitting costs between friends eased the tremendous cost of entertainment.

*Photo By: Josh Howard*



## COMMON CENTS\$ RESPONSIBILITY GAINED

"It seems like the older I get, the more I have to pay for," said Adam McMurry.

McMurry was among several juniors who felt that when it came to money, there never seemed to be enough.

For juniors, school expenses skyrocketed. Many juniors opted to purchase letterman jackets, class rings and other school memorabilia.

"I think we should have a lay-away plan," said Markisha Edwards. "Things would be a lot simpler because the cost of

everything can become rather overwhelming."

In addition to school items, juniors also had to pay for other costly expenses not related to school, such as cars, gas, maintenance and insurance.

Scott Pickett was one of those who was strapped due to car expenses.

"I have to pay \$130 a month for my car insurance. That's almost my whole paycheck," he said.

Juniors were diligent in meeting their economic needs. Many had jobs to help meet expenses.

Other ways of making ends meet were also utilized.

"My mother and I split costs on everything," said Lisa Sorensen. "For instance, I'm trying to get a car now. My mother is very understanding about how costly necessities can be. She agreed to split the costs with me," she said.

However they chose to pay their many expenses, juniors agreed on one thing.

"Having a job definitely helps," said Robin Greer.

*Design By: Lauren Stewart  
Copy By: Rebecca Piggee*

## IMPRESS ME

Junior Tiffany Minx admires someone she's been close to for awhile - her older sister, Champagne Minx. "My sister and I both play softball. She is a really talented player and has had several scholarship offers from colleges. Unfortunately, she developed a case of tendonitis and was unable to play. This did not stop her from succeeding in life, however. At the age of 19, she is independent and working at a successful business," said Tiffany.

Tiffany is following in her older sister's footsteps by a 3.8 GPA, and a lot of athletic talent. Minx hopes to one day impress someone as well.



# IMPRESS ME

Sophomore Shatonda Jones prides herself in her academic accomplishments. She has a grade point average of 4.28, is the president of the Spanish Club and is involved in both Hi-Step and the Student Government Association.

Who impressed academic excellence in Jones' mind?

"My mother. She is a strong and kind lady.

When she is going through hardships, she always has time for my sister and I," she said. Jones wants to follow in her mother's footsteps.

She is attempting to make a good impression on her peers and community by showing strong leadership skills.

"I hope to be just like my mother. I plan to get involved in more community events. It's difficult sometimes, but I think of what my mother has accomplished and that keeps me going."

# GEARING UP LEARNING TO DRIVE

If life is a highway, then sophomores are just beginning their journey. Although they had many dead ends and wrong turns in their search for direction, they continued to drive on down the road of life.

The big event for sophomores was obtaining the ever-elusive driver's license.

"Getting my driver's license was very nerve-racking," said Carl Grandi.

Shannon Grimm was glad to get the whole thing out of the way.

"When she told me I passed, I had such a huge feeling of relief," Grimm said.

For some sophomores a few roadblocks were between them and their license.

"I have a car and a permit, unfortunately I'm not sixteen yet," explained Teresa Self.

Others were in the same situation. Jason Sparks was awaiting his birthday as well.

"I've had my permit for what seems like forever. I just want to drive," Sparks said.

While most sophomores anticipated taking control of the wheel, others were not that

eager.

"I'm not ready for driving yet because of all the responsibilities that come with it," said Sedric Hibler. Self agreed.

"Driving is a lot of responsibility because you have to pay attention at all times. It can be hard to concentrate," he said.

Driving was just one of many privileges the sophomores had to look forward to in their journey through life.

Design By: Lauren Stewart  
Copy By: Rebecca Piggee

## SPORTING NEW WHEELS

Sophomore Jeff Douglas pulls into the school parking lot, ready for another day. Most sophomores agreed that freedom never tasted sweeter than car ownership. After sixteen years, sophomores were able to more or less come and go as they pleased.

Photo By: Josh Howard



## GETTING AROUND IN STYLE

Sophomore Scott Reaves prepares to leave school on a Friday afternoon. Reaves said having his own vehicle relieved him of the nuisance of riding the school bus.

Photo By: Josh Howard







Angie Aviles  
 Kashaunda Baker  
 Marcus Barnett  
 Andrew Barrow  
 Pamela Bigelow  
 Brandon Bingham

Katy Boyd  
 Roshawn Brown  
 Lekila Bryant  
 Diem Bui  
 Kisha Bullock  
 Sara Burnham

Terry Burtin  
 Jeron Campbell  
 Leanna Carpenter  
 Danielle Cary  
 Michael Clark  
 Fahteema Collins

Lukas Conard  
 Tamika Crafton  
 Ginger Damron  
 Michael Daniel  
 Ray Daniel  
 Brianne Daugherty

Angela Davis  
 Brandon Davis  
 Jeff Douglas  
 Steve Echols  
 Marnita Edwards  
 Kimberly Ellington

Tiffany Elliott  
 Bret Eubank  
 Dedra Ferguson  
 Adrian Fieber  
 Dondrea Fielder  
 Samantha Florez

Menulique Foreman  
 Arliss Gammill  
 Mystique Gant  
 Thomas Gavin  
 Molly Gillespie  
 Jessica Gitterman

Michaela Gore  
 Carl Grandi  
 Kiara Grant  
 Cassandra Grantham  
 Chris Gray  
 Randy Green



#### CHATTING WITH FRIENDS

Sophomore Jeff Douglas spends part of his lunch period chatting with friends. Conversations between sophomores often revolved around cars, school and dating.

*Photo By: Jill Montgomery*



#### WHEELS BRING FREEDOM

Sophomore Steve Mattson arrives home after a busy day at school. Mattson said he enjoyed having the freedom of driving to and from school. *Photo By: Jill Montgomery*



## IMPRESS ME

Freshmen often looked to others as role models.

Family members seemed to make more of an impression on freshmen than anyone else.

"My dad impressed me by spending time with me. But most of all, he always has such a great humor toward everyone."

*Steven McCall*

"My brother impressed me because he had big muscles and cool friends."

*Monica Shipman*

"My mom impressed me because she works so hard for me to have things that I want."

*Samantha Florez*

## ON THE WAY UP WITH EYES ON SENIORITY

Exactly what is a sophomore?

According to Clint Williams, a sophomore himself, it is someone who is in limbo – not an upperclassman, but not a freshman either.

For Steve Mattson, being a sophomore did not have many advantages except bringing him closer to graduation.

"The best part of being a sophomore is getting closer

to being a junior," Mattson said.

Mike Daniel agreed.

"We still have two years to go, and being a sophomore is just a small movement from the freshman level to graduation," Daniel said.

Upperclassmen were more inclined to respect sophomores above freshmen, according to Shannon Higgins.

"It's great to get respect from the upperclassmen. They don't act like they are superior

to the class of 1999! Now we don't get made fun of," Higgins said.

The sophomore year was a year of growing and learning. More respect was gained, and the students were one year closer to the much-anticipated graduation. Most viewed it as just a minor transition.

Mike McCrory summed it up.

"I love being a sophomore because it's cool," he said.

*Design By: Natasha Walker  
Copy By: Dana Battin*





Melissa Greening  
 Amber Griffith  
 Shannon Grimm  
 Tanya Harris  
 Steve Hartline  
 Mark Haselwood

Aaron Hawkins  
 Sean Hellstrom  
 Nicki Henderson  
 Rachelle Henry  
 Sedric Hibler  
 Shannon Higgins

Tasha Hooten  
 Lekeisha Hoskins  
 Phillip Howard  
 Jessica Hussong  
 Kue Hwang  
 Don'l Iverson

Chuneka Jenkins  
 Samuel Johnson  
 Tameika Johnson  
 Shatonda Jones  
 Louie Juan  
 Ryan Knickerbocker

Anna Leffert  
 Amanda Leffler  
 Leslie Lewis  
 Ranata Lovelady  
 Melissa Lozano  
 Richard Lozier

Randy Maley  
 Steve Mattson  
 Kenneth Mayfield  
 Steven McCall  
 Michael McCrory  
 Christina Milis

Nicole Mills  
 Roy Mingo  
 Jess Moore  
 Tyrone Moore  
 Mary Morse  
 James Murray

Mike Neudeck  
 Stephanie Nichols  
 Jolene Outley  
 Nick Oviedo  
 Jeffrey Pierce  
 Duane Putnam



Scott Reaves  
 Rocky Reed  
 Jessica Renfrow  
 Ronzell Richard  
 Randy Robinson  
 Tanisha Robinson



Elizabeth Ross  
 Tiffany Ross  
 Shamal Samuel  
 Judah Schad  
 Teresa Self  
 Monica Shipman



Jalonn Sidney  
 Jacob Simpson  
 Adrian Smith  
 Mishel Smith  
 Tiffany Smith  
 Paul Sowell



Jason Sparks  
 Jill Stempleman  
 Mindia Stephenson  
 Simone Stephenson  
 Robert Taylor  
 Latrice Terry



# IMPRESS ME

Parents play an important role in how their children perceive the world. Good parents make positive impressions on their children.

"My mom really made a big impression on my life. She goes to work and comes home and finds time to spend with the family and make sure everything is going fine."

*Amanda Skullark*



### CATCHIN' A FLICK

An AMC movie pass provides the ticket to a night of entertainment for many sophomores. Dinner and a movie was a popular date activity.

*Photo By: Jill Montgomery*

### GETTING INVOLVED

Sophomore Monica Shipman takes part of her lunch hour to chat with friends. Shipman said she and her friends became more involved in school activities during their sophomore year.

*Photo By: Jill Montgomery*





Jerome Thomas  
Tara Tischer  
Ragan Townsend  
LA Toya Trent  
Roman Turner  
Robert Vaught

Jason Wages  
Sharonda Walker  
Emily Walsh  
Kelly Warinner  
Anthony Warren  
Tina Watts

Clint Williams  
Reggie Williams  
Tyranekia Williams  
Joseph Witmer  
Lekisha Wooten  
Lina Wu

Carlos Yanes  
Misha Yates  
Tammy Young  
Melissa Youngblood



# TIME AT HOME

## FAMILY TIME IS PRIORITY

With the busy schedule of sports, after-school activities and a social life, many students found it hard to find time to spend with their families. Often, the amount of bonding time spent with family was rare and usually initiated by parents.

Lina Wu had that very problem.

"When you participate in

a lot of activities, you have less time to spend with your family," she said.

Shanette Chaney said she made an effort to manage her time so that she could be with her family more.

"I try to juggle my school activities and part-time job. I usually can handle it and still spend quite a bit of time at home," Chaney said.

Time spent with family was

spent in various ways, from going out to dinner to just watching television together.

According to Mike McCrory, he and his family went to the movies often.

Most students, no matter how busy, remembered their families and tried to set some time aside for them.

*Design By: Heidi Hamilton-Brake  
Copy By: Dana Battin*

### SOPHOMORES NOT PICTURED

Chif'von Allen	April Coil	Andrea Fenimore	Caleb Hartford	Sherrod Jones	Jolene Outley
Robert Baer	Joshua Curtis	Rebecca Fisher	Scott Hill	Reginald Lenzy	Racheal Parson
Sara Bigger	Raymond Daniel	Mariano Gaucin	Jennifer Johnico	Katryna Lucas	Porshea Randle
Jamie Branstetter	Kenneth Davis	Erica Graham	Heather Johnson	Richard Luzier	Alicia Ricks
Beverly Brocius	Danyell Duncan	Kiara Grant	Keona Johnson	Dante Mann	Amanda Scullark
Shanette Chaney	Stanley Evans	Alvin Harris	Ramona Jones	Theron Martin	



#### JOKING AROUND

Pasha Hosseini and Nick Snorgrass share a joke during lunch. Students said that lunch was a good time to take a break and relax.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



#### STUDYING HARD

Ashley Cashen, freshman, studies in the Media Center. Students took advantage of time in the Media Center to get ahead on work.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



## IMPRESS ME

Most everyone has done something crazy or outrageous to try to impress another—especially someone of the opposite sex. This was true as well with the juniors.

"I got down on one knee to ask this girl out with a balloon shaped as a flower."

*Joey Brake*

"Some of my friends and I walked from the middle school to Ward Parkway to get my girlfriend a gift."

*Naveed Siddiqi*

"One day at practice I tried to throw my flag up real high trying to impress this boy that I liked, but when it came down it hit me in the face."

*Mahasan Taylor*

## TRYING TO FIT IN FRESHMEN FIND THEIR PLACE

The Class of 2000. Entering high school has proven stressful for freshmen. This class was no exception.

Many freshmen found it difficult to adjust to the changes that occur during the transition from middle school to high school. Some of these changes included new surroundings, more challenging work in the classroom and once again being the "underdogs" of the school.

"Sometimes I can feel the upperclassman tension, but overall, I find high school interesting," said Freshman

Ashley Cashen.

Tradition has dictated that freshmen are not always treated with respect. This tended to make the freshmen feel uncomfortable and unwanted.

However, many outgoing freshmen fit in well in their new atmosphere and interacted well with their peers.

One such freshman was Crystal Gilliland.

"I have met a lot of friends and it has been nice getting to know them. I will cry when the Class of 1997 graduates," Gilliland said.

Although many upper-

classmen acted as if the freshmen were a lower form of life, they did enjoy having the freshmen look up to them.

Freshman Risha Frazier said she did look up to and respect the upperclassmen.

"I feel that most upperclassmen are intelligent and fun to be around," she said.

Freshmen were eager to get into high school to make an impression. Although the freshman year was not always the easiest, freshmen used it as a learning experience.

*Design By: Heidi Hamilton-Brake  
Copy By: Marissa Wash*





Deandre Abbott  
 Rashid Abdul-Salaam  
 Mary Ajarapu  
 Erin Anderson  
 Eric Atty  
 Amanda Baggerly

Brandon Bailey  
 Thomas Baskind  
 Dana Bassore  
 Amanda Baucom  
 Wendell Bell  
 Stephanie Berry

Jason Bessenbacher  
 Renee Betts  
 Heather Blakesley  
 Jermaine Booker  
 Joey Brake  
 Bryan Breckenridge

Jonathan Brown  
 Marty Brown  
 Allison Caldwell  
 Brant Campbell  
 Casey Campbell  
 Justin Caplan

Joseph Carr  
 Rita Carr  
 Cheryl Carroll  
 Travis Cartwright  
 Ashley Cashen  
 Katie Cates

Candace Chatman  
 Rheylya Christine  
 Angela Clardy  
 Elizabeth Conner  
 Neil Corrison  
 Shannon Cox

Tyler Crafton  
 Christen Crismon  
 Frances Cusick  
 Lamonte Dixon  
 Kiyana Dodd  
 Larry Druen

Kristin Erickson  
 Derek Ewing  
 Rebecca Foshee  
 Richa Frazier  
 John Fultz  
 Shawna Gannaway



# IMPRESS ME

Almost everyone had someone they looked up to – someone who made an impression on them, whether it was a sports figure or entertainer. Impressions were often made unknowingly. How were some of the freshmen impressed?

"I once got a flower from a girl on my birthday. I thought that was rather unusual."  
*Justin Leffler*

"My hero is my dad because he has always been there for me."  
*Kody Williams*

"I have always looked at my football coaches as people who I could admire. I admire them because they know so much about football."  
*John Fultz*

## MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Freshman Louie Juan completes a freshman class election ballot. Class elections not only gave students a voice, they also taught the importance of exercising their voting rights outside of the school setting.

*Photo By: Jill Montgomery*

# MAKIN' THE GRADE

## PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

Freshmen found that studying helped them out in several ways. Learning good study habits proved to be an excellent way for freshmen to maintain good grades.

"I try to make good grades so that I can prepare for the future," said Louie Juan.

To further help the freshmen academically, honors classes were offered to them for the first time. Classes such as Honors

English and Honors Math were both available to freshmen. Those who took the honors classes did so both to prepare for the future and also for the challenge.

"I am in honor classes. They are much harder and require much more studying than I expected," said Naveed Siddiqi.

Most freshmen share the sentiment that high-school class work is much more difficult than the work they were used to in the middle school.

"I thought that when I came into the high school, work would be a little easier – especially my freshman year. To my surprise, it is much harder," said Gina Soldi.

Although some freshmen admitted to having a bit of academic difficulty, they planned to work hard to improve.

"I think by the end of the year, I will get used to it," said Dana Bassore.

*Design By: Natasha Walker  
Copy By: Dana Battin*



## START THE SHOW

Freshman Stephen John rushes to his locker between classes. Between classes, sports and other activities, freshmen were constantly on the move.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*







Richard Gilles  
 Crystal Gilliland  
 Fatima Gonzalez  
 Melinda Grandi  
 Christal Green  
 Tiffany Griffin



Danielle Halterman  
 Wyketha Harrell  
 Jerome Harris  
 Nichole Harstad  
 April Hartford  
 Eric Haynes



Shannon Heffernan  
 James Henderson  
 Jennett Hepola  
 Shanna Hiebert  
 Jeff Hill  
 Larhonda Hill



Pasha Hosseini  
 Carrie Howard  
 Connie Janssens  
 Stephen John  
 Amy Johnson  
 Anthony Johnson



Kelsey Johnson  
 Kyle Johnson  
 Terrance Johnson  
 Peggy Joy  
 Christian Juan  
 Clifford Juan



Jennifer Keeney  
 Julius King  
 Lakeisha Langston  
 Ezekiel Latham  
 Justin Leffler  
 Chris Lowry



Bruce McAfee  
 Norman McDonald  
 Derek McIntyre  
 Kathleen Milburn  
 Charles Miller  
 John Milone



Amy Mitchell  
 Shawn Mitchell  
 Dawn Mooney  
 Tina Moore  
 Lynsey Nixon  
 Eric Nunn



Travis O'Reilly  
 Jeff Peak  
 Zachary Peister  
 Daniel Pemberton  
 Richard Pope  
 Amber Randle



Morgan Ridgeway  
 Chris Riley  
 Quintin Rivarde  
 Sam Robinson  
 Jeremy Rosemann  
 William Runnels



Nicholas Scheuerman  
 Tabitha Schikevitz  
 George Schrand  
 Ben Schwerin  
 Scott Shannahan  
 Naveed Siddiqi



Brian Singer  
 Nick Snorgrass  
 Gina Soldi  
 Fostenia Stevens  
 Kelley Stevens  
 Brandon Stevenson



Julian Stoaks  
 Darren Stone  
 Cheryl Stutts  
 Eric Sutton  
 Josiah Sward  
 Mahasan Taylor



Shaniqua Townsend  
 Aaron Trowbridge  
 Amberly Wagner  
 Derek Waite  
 Rashawnda Walker  
 Lindsey Weaver



Natalie Webb  
 Joe Wells  
 Derek Wieberg  
 Donald Williams  
 Kody Williams  
 La'Dettra Williams



Christy Wilson  
 Leif Wisdahl  
 Justin Woodling  
 Brian Worts





#### BREAKING STEREOTYPES

Becky Foshee, Neil Corrison and Ashley Cashen said when they reached high school, they met a lot of people and made many new friends. Most of the stereotypes of the high-school experience were proven wrong once the freshmen tasted the experience first hand.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*

# NERVOUSNESS GRIPS FRESHMEN

What did a freshman have to be afraid of? Plenty if you asked one of them.

Going to a new school with older, unfamiliar students was frightening for some. Having more homework than they were used to was also an issue.

"I had some hard classes with upperclassmen. It was stressful to be in those classes," said Becky Foshee.

Foshee wasn't the only freshman who was nervous to be moving to the high

school. Others had butterflies in their stomachs as well.

"I thought the upperclassmen would kill freshmen every day," said Crystal Gilliland.

Many freshmen found that making friends with upperclassmen helped them to relax in their new school.

"I wasn't too afraid to start at a new school. I made a lot of friends through playing volleyball," said Carrie Howard.

Involvement in athletics was not the only way for fresh-

men to make friends. Students who had older siblings in the high school also had an advantage.

"My brother went to school here and I already had a lot of friends through him," said Tabitha Schikevitz.

Although many freshmen began the year with apprehensions, by mid-year, they had built up self-confidence and added many new names to their list of friends.

*Design By: Jessica Brooks  
Copy By: Ashley Prater*

# IMPRESS ME

Freshmen learned a lot in their first year of high school. One important lesson was not to believe everything they heard. "The worst rumor I ever heard about coming to high school was that there were drive-bys and knife fights going on all the time. But when I got here, I realized that it wasn't really all that bad."

*Naveed Siddiqi*

"When I was in seventh grade, my brother told me that there was a ghost in the props locker. I thought he was just making it up, but there are a lot of people here who believe it."

*Amber Randle*

#### FRESHMEN NOT PICTURED

Joshua Blount	Tyler Crafton	Sherman Gilbert	Lance Lewis	Christy Mori	TiffanySmith
Jessica Bundy	Malcolm Crosdale	Tyedia Godsy	Robert Long	Toan Nguyen	William Teel
Synnovea Burton	David Crossley	Brandi Henkel	Whitney Mallon	Andrew Ringwood	CristenTennison
Carrie Caldwell	William Cushing	Mark Hurst	Antoine Martin	Shalanda Sanders	DaeshaThomas
Rheyla Carter-Hall	Brian Dixon	Andrew Jackson	Crystal McIntosh	Marcus Simpson	James Vanderslice
Elaina Carullo	Jesica Fowler	Monica Jones	Dante Minor	Kelly Slack	Robert Walters
Melissa Childers	Demond Gates	Dana Langer	Shashanda Mitchell		



#### PIGGIN' OUT!

Nick Snorgrass enjoys his fast-food lunch of a hamburger and french fries. Freshmen enjoyed having a choice of several entrees for lunch.

*Photo By: Josh Howard*

#### FUN TIMES WITH FRIENDS

Freshman Frances Cossack exaggerates a story to a friend. In high school freshmen were given some independence and free time during the day to hang out with friends.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



# TOUCHING LIVES

## TEACHERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Teachers were often looked up to and admired within the school. They made impressions that would linger forever on the lives of many freshmen.

Students appreciated extra time given by their teachers. Extra time after school and infinite patience made positive impressions on young minds.

Crystal Gilliland said she most remembers her former band teacher.

"I really appreciated Mr. Jones. He showed me how to play the flute. He was a great person. I will never

forget him," said Gilliland.

Sometimes just a sympathetic ear and a shoulder to cry on made a huge difference to students.

"Mrs. Burgdorf helped me through hard times. When my uncle died, she was a friend," said Ashley Cashen.

A sense of humor also proved to go a long way for teachers in gaining student approval.

According to Neil Corriston, Coach Bauml was his favorite teacher.

"He told some hilarious stories," said Corriston.

Being treated with respect also earned points with students.

"I like Mrs. Worthy because she isn't mean and she treats you with respect."

At times, the love of the subject matter was enough to draw a student and teacher together.

"I've been blessed with many good teachers, but Mrs. Burgdorf probably affected me most. She taught me about poetry and how my goal is to be a poet," said Shannon Heffernan.

*Design By: Jessica Brooks  
Copy By: Daniece Moreland*

## IMPRESS ME

When trying to make a good impression, being oneself is usually the best tactic. Some freshmen learned that lesson the hard way.

"When I was a freshman, I dyed my hair blonde because I heard this guy I was interested in liked blondes."

*Lauren Lewandowski*

"I tried to wear facial powder makeup and got the wrong color. It was too dark, and when I went up to my boyfriend, he asked me, 'What do you have on your face?' I felt stupid."

*La'Quinda Stummon*

"When I was eight, I jumped off of this 15-foot bridge into some water to impress this guy."

*Ashley Prater*



### GAINING ACCEPTANCE

Freshman Neil Corriston and Senior Rick Milone joke around between classes. Most freshmen appreciated any time seniors spent with them.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*





### WORKING TOWARD IMPROVEMENT

A teacher's work is never done. Physics Teacher Jackie Morales worked on improving her teaching skills through gaining higher education and polishing lesson plans.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*

### A HEALING TOUCH

School Nurse Jan Parks is always on hand to help those in need. From wrapping bandages to administering medication, Parks was someone the school could not do without.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



### INVALUABLE SERVICE

Receptionist Judy Redmond answers phones in the front office. Redmond answered phones, handled student I.D. cards and dealt with office visitors. Secretaries and receptionists were invaluable in the school.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*

### READY OR NOT, HERE WE COME!

Teachers gather for a photo after freshman orientation. Teachers faced the school year with a positive outlook and worked hard to improve academics and discipline throughout the year.

*Photo By: Pete Gillespie*



# INFLUENCING THE FUTURE

If all one needed to know was obtained in kindergarten, as Author Robert Fulgrum said, high school would not be necessary. However, four years of high school is a required stepping stone into the world. The presence of dedicated teachers who have the ability to captivate and motivate is crucial.

Why do teachers get into a field which is rumored to provide few rewards and a small salary?

"At the age of 18, I thought teaching would be the last thing that I would do. Even when I was in college, it (teaching) was not my goal. I just sort of wound up there," said Biology Teacher Annette Howk.

For Psychology and American History Teacher Kateri Watters, teaching was a natural interest of hers, while History Teacher Beth Marvin was influenced by her past instructors to enter the teaching field.

"I like teaching and I like high-school kids," Marvin said. "In high school I looked up to a lot of teachers and I realized what a difference they made in my life. I thought it would be cool to do the same," she said.

Making a difference was an important goal for many instructors, including Computer Applications Instructor Bruce Rehmer.

"To have a direct impact and influence in young peoples' lives was always important to me," Rehmer said.

While most teachers did not receive apples to reward their time and effort, rewards did come – but in different forms.

"One of the biggest rewards for me is seeing someone struggle and then seeing them excel in the end," Rehmer said.



## LEADING THE SHOW

Drama Teacher Kamela Bates works on the set of the musical "You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown". Bates found her first year at Center a challenge, but found satisfaction in directing the plays and musical.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*

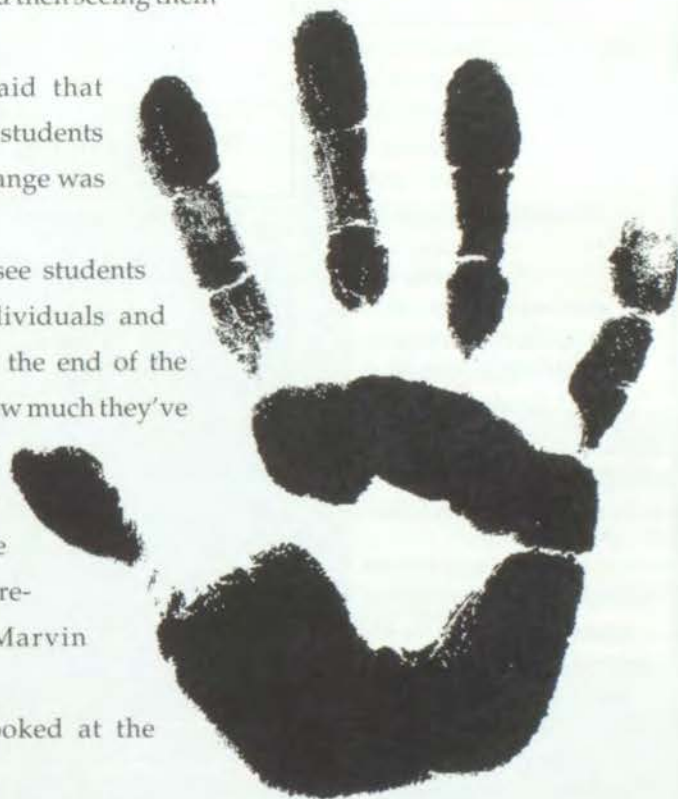
Marvin said that watching her students grow and change was rewarding.

"When I see students grow as individuals and look back at the end of the year to see how much they've changed since the beginning of the year, I feel rewarded," Marvin said.

Waters looked at the lighter side.

At the end of the school year, when all is said and done, and the bell has echoed its last ring, teachers still have a lot of homework ahead of them in preparing for yet another year in the classroom. A teacher's work is never done.

*Design By: Heidi Hamilton-Brake  
Copy By: Rebecca Piggee*



Teaching was a profession with long hours, little pay and many frustrations. But the quality educators stuck with it due to the love of their students and the education field.

They wanted to make their mark on the world, but how did they do it?

"I try to present a positive and realistic impression for my students. I believe in leading students by example."

*Tim Greenwell-  
Assistant Band Director*

"I talk about issues, concerns and problems that the students face now and will face in the future."

*Jim Ford-  
Student Development*

"I try to be the students' friend. It is important to listen to them whenever they need someone to talk to."

*Stephanie Stewart-  
Plato Lab Manager*

"I try to teach with enthusiasm - to instill in them the same love for journalism that I have. I give them respect and expect respect in return.

Trying to teach as a dictator does not reach students."

*Kathy Yates-  
Journalism*

# HELPING HANDS

## TEACHERS REACH OUT

Teachers and administrators were looked up to and influenced students.

The impressions they made were immeasurable.

Teaching was one of the most difficult professions. Motivating and teaching hundreds of different students with varying ability levels proved challenging to many educators. How did the teachers attempt to reach and educate their students?

"I try to be realistic. It is important to tell students what will happen if they work hard and what will happen if they do not," said History Teacher Tom Grow.

According to Assistant Principal Cleo Washington, respect was an important

factor in dealing with students.

"I show them as much respect as possible. I make an attempt to listen to their side. Afterwards, I always try to explain to them how to avoid that particular problem in the future," said Washington.

Good teaching was the best way to make an impression, according to most faculty members.

"I try to do things that the students may find interesting. For example, we may do assignments on the board and turn it into a game. By studying that way, they are having fun and learning at the same time," said Special Education Teacher Leonard Fowler.

Horticulture and Science Teacher Terry Keeton believed

real-life situations were the best tools for leaving permanent impressions.

"Horticulture is a fun topic that everyone can do. Students learn how to take care of plants," said Keeton.

History Teacher Johnna Fraise believed student input was important in learning.

"I welcome student input and suggestions and try to offer choices when we do projects," said Fraise.

Creative teaching methods, respectful attitudes toward students and a caring manner seemed to be what impressed students the most.

*Design By: Jessica Brooks  
Copy By: Daniece Moreland*



### TOUGH SITUATIONS

Assistant Principal Cleo Washington talks to security guards on the two-way radio during a bomb threat evacuation. Three bomb threats in less than a week caused students to be evacuated to the football stadium in the cold January weather.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*

### WORDS OF WISDOM

Superintendent William Hawver addresses new inductees at a National Honor Society meeting. Hawver impressed both students and faculty by spending time in the school getting to know everyone.

*Photo By: Josh Howard*





# F • A • C • U • L • T • Y



Beverly Ankarlo • *Math Instructor*  
 Ann Aristamuno • *Spanish Instructor*  
 Claudette Bartle • *Foreign Language Instructor*  
 Dave Bassore • *Physical Education Instructor*  
 Kamela Bates • *Speech and Debate Instructor*  
 Becky Berrigan • *Science Instructor*

Sue Blew • *Special Education Instructor*  
 Bob Brillhart • *Science Instructor*  
 Sharon Brown • *Special Education Instructor*  
 Maggie Calcara • *Librarian*  
 Kathleen Chirpich • *Gifted Instructor*  
 Sharon Coleman • *Media Center Aid*

Nancy Cooley • *History Instructor*  
 Tom Creamer • *Art Instructor*  
 Denise Davis • *Language Arts Instructor*  
 Dana Dawson • *Math Instructor*  
 Cookie Douglas • *Language Arts Instructor*  
 Jan Evans • *Family and Consumer Sciences Instructor*

Dominick Fazarro • *Industrial Technology Instructor*  
 Jim Ford • *Student Development Coordinator*  
 Johnna Fraise • *Social Studies Instructor*  
 Ed Fritz • *Physical Education Instructor*  
 Tim Greenwell • *Assistant Director of Bands*  
 Tom Grow • *Social Studies Instructor*

Andy Hanch • *Language Arts Instructor*  
 Terri Hardy • *Math Instructor*  
 Ashley Hilliard • *Chemistry Instructor*  
 Annette Howk • *Science Instructor*  
 Amy Hydeman • *Special Education Instructor*  
 Vallorie Johnson • *Alternative School Instructor*

## TEACHING CREATIVITY

Art Teacher Tom Creamer gives a demonstration on molding clay. Ceramics was just one of many art projects students work on in the art department.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



# HUMILIATION

## TEACHERS FESS UP

Students were not the only ones ever embarrassed. Many times, teachers were caught in awkward situations. These embarrassing events left a lasting impression on the teachers.

"Once I was walking up to the band room, and I tripped up the stairs. Everyone was watching me. It's really embarrassing when that happens," said Band Instructor Tim Greenwell.

Journalism Teacher Kathy Yates also experienced humility in front of her students.

"I went to sit down in my

chair, and when I did, it broke. The cushion flew up in the air, and I fell flat on the floor. I just stayed there laughing at myself along with the kids," she said.

Teachers were also embarrassed when students interpreted their words too literally; and of course, student pranks were the cause of many embarrassing moments in the classroom for teachers.

"Once I asked my students to turn in their writings, and a boy turned in his entire desk! It turned out that he had written his essay directly on the desk," said English and

Gifted Teacher Kathy Chirpich.

History Teacher Andy Hanch was also the victim of a student prank.

"I was drinking my coffee, and when I was finished, I found at the bottom of my cup a little plastic dinosaur," he recalled.

Contrary to popular belief, students were not the only ones who encountered embarrassing situations and public humiliation. Teachers, like students are only human!

*Design By: Jessica Brooks  
Copy By: Ashley Prater*

## IMPRESS ME

Center teachers have done many impressive and interesting things – most of the time without getting the credit or recognition they deserved.

### *Did you know????!!!*

...that Science Teacher Bob Brillhart enjoyed hunting? He did not use a gun when he hunted, though. Instead, he used a bow and arrow.

...that Art Teacher Tom Creamer has taught at Center High School longer than any other teacher?

...that Math Teacher Dana Dawson raised llamas on her farm near Lone Jack?

### KEEP IN TOUCH

World History Teacher Tom Grow writes Christmas cards to Chinese pen pals. Writing to foreign pen pals was one of the many projects done by Grow's World History students.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



# F · A · C · U · L · T · Y



Terry Keeton • *Athletic Dir./Science Instructor*  
 Carolyn Knapp • *Band Director*  
 Beverly Kowalczyk • *Language Arts Instructor*  
 Greg Lang • *Math Instructor*  
 Jonne Legg • *Special Education Instructor*  
 Kathy Lord • *Special Education Instructor*



Cynthia McNeil • *Alternative School Instructor*  
 Jackie Morales • *Physics Instructor*  
 Doyle Pace • *Art Instructor*  
 Steve Perry • *Physical Education Instructor*  
 Ravind Rana • *Alternative School Instructor*  
 Bruce Rehmer • *Business Instructor*



Mike Reynolds • *Language Arts/Debate Instructor*  
 Alyce Sherman • *Language Arts Instructor*  
 Charles Smith • *Language Arts Instructor*  
 Rick Smith • *Industrial Technology Instructor*  
 Ken Snell • *Science Instructor*  
 Terese Spears • *Alternative School Instructor*



Denise Stewart • *Gifted Instructor*  
 Myra Switala • *Work/Transition Coordinator*  
 Danny Tipton • *Business Instructor*  
 Roylee Turley • *Family and Consumer Sci. Instructor*  
 Kateri Watters • *Social Studies Instructor*  
 Janet Weigland • *Math Instructor*



Charles Williams • *Alternative School Instructor*  
 Corine Woods • *Art Instructor*  
 Kathy Yates • *Journalism/Photography Instructor*  
 Carol Zagorniak • *Spanish Instructor*



## WORK WORK WORK

Johnna Fraise checks papers. Keeping up with paperwork was one of the biggest challenges of teaching according to Fraise.

*Photo By: Ethan Jordan*



# A D M I N I S T R A T I O N



William Hawver  
*Supt. of Schools*

Joel Kallem  
*Deputy Supt. of Schools*

George Madelen  
*Director of Personnel*

Bernard Williams  
*Alt. School Director*

Brian Schumann  
*High School Principal*

Robert Finger  
*Assistant Principal*

Cleo Washington  
*Assistant Principal*

## IMPRESS ME

School pride usually comes hand in hand with attending high school.

Students are usually proud of their school and its traditions.

Students and teachers alike found many things at Center that impressed them.

"I like the cultural diversity at Center. It adds to its personality."

*Jackie Morales  
Physics Teacher*

"I'm impressed with the quality of the teachers and students here."

*Maggie Calcara  
Librarian*

"I enjoy the friendly atmosphere and the students and people that

I work with."

*Bernard Williams  
Director of Student Services*

## HIGH EXPECTATIONS FUTURE EXPECTS EXCELLENCE

The world has begun requiring graduates to emerge from the educational institutions equipped with more than just the basic English, mathematics and writing skills.

Colleges and employers wanted more advanced skills.

Admission to colleges became more difficult. Some colleges would not accept students without a solid background complete with foreign language and advanced science and math. Educators were aware of these changes and tried to prepare students for this demand.

What do students need to prepare for future academics and careers?

"Students need more teamwork, technology and intern experiences. They need to work on more integrated cross-curricular

projects," according to French Instructor Robert Bonsasa.

Taking more responsibility for their own futures would also prove helpful, Bonsasa said.

"Our students could take more responsibility toward their education and growth. Teachers and parents are just helpers and catalysts - meaning we get things started. Getting things started requires motivation," Bonsasa elaborated.

That motivation was not easily inspired, according to some teachers.

"The most challenging teaching obstacle I faced was attempting to motivate those who are unmotivated," said Language Arts Instructor Charles Smith.

While cross-curricular projects were important, cross-culture programs were important as well. Fluency in a foreign language (or two)

became an important asset as the world became smaller through technological advances.

"Learning a foreign language prepares students for a well-rounded education. It opens possibilities of other jobs, even on the international market," said Bonsasa.

While the world was advancing rapidly, educators worked hard to keep up with the changes in order to provide students with useful information. However, teachers stressed that students had to take control of their own success.

"How far a student goes academically is up to them," Bonsasa said. "Students should do their best each day. What one does each day affects their future," he said.

*Design By: Heidi Hamilton-Brake  
Copy By: Rebecca Piggee*



# SUPPORT STAFF



Pat Baer • Cafeteria  
 Martha Capehart • Superintendent's Secretary  
 Paula Crow • Principal's Secretary  
 Jan Edwards • A+ Secretary  
 William Gould • Custodian  
 Connie Hostettler • Counselor / A+ Coordinator

Kathy James • Counselor  
 Carol Johnston • Activities Secretary  
 Everett Kilbourne • Head Custodian  
 John Lyon • Audio-Visual Tech.  
 Pat Miller • District Computer Tech.  
 Jan Parks • School Nurse

Sandra Patterson • Counselor  
 Teola Powell • Cafeteria  
 Judy Redmond • Receptionist  
 Kathy Riggs • Building Secretary  
 Maria Rios • Clerk/Attendance  
 Lynn Schwerin • Special Ed. Aide

Stephanie Stewart • Plato Lab Supervisor  
 Terri Stockman • Security Guard  
 Willie Thornton • Director of Security  
 Marilyn Watt • Guidance Secretary  
 Orlando Whitaker • Security Guard  
 Donna Winters • Custodian



## POTS, PANS AND SKILLETS

Cafeteria worker Vernabelle Summers scrubs up the last few pans before going home for the day. The cooks worked hard to offer students a wide variety of foods.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*

## ALL IN A DAY'S WORK

Science Teacher Becky Berrigan takes a breather. The five minutes between classes was often precious to teachers as a time to relax and make final preps for the next class.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



#### FOREIGN TONGUES

Spanish Teacher Ann Aristamuno discusses an assignment with one of her students. Spanish classes were important for college-bound students, since most colleges required it for admission.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*

#### CHOWING DOWN

Assistant Band Director Tim Greenwell takes time from his hectic schedule to eat lunch with other teachers. Lunch time proved to be a time to relax as well as vent frustrations.

*Photo By: Josh Howard*

# IMPRESS ME

## Did you know...

...that approximately 106 classrooms line the halls in the school?

...that approximately 56 teachers grace these hallowed hallways?

...that the average student spends 1,440 hours at school each year?

...that by the time the average person graduates from high school, he or she has spent approximately 17,500 hours watching T.V? Compare that to only about 10,000 hours in the classroom.

...that of those 1,440 hours at school, 90 are spent wandering the halls, getting a drink of water and talking with friends during passing periods?



## Grow spends 30 years at CHS

History Teacher Tom Grow walked in the school building, unlocked his classroom door, set his coffee cup down on his desk and began preparations for the day.

That was a normal routine for most teachers, but the difference between them and Grow was that Grow had been doing that every school day for 30 years – and every one of those years were spent at Center Senior High.

What inspired Grow to spend 30 years teaching at the same school?

Grow said he was attracted to Center because of its high salary and good reputation as an educational leader. He has remained because, "Once you have taught at a school for seven or eight years, you cannot go to another district without losing money," Grow said.

Grow said he plans to remain at least through the 97-98 school year. Then he said he may retire. After retirement he said he is unsure of his future.

"I will continue to teach another eight to 10 years either in a college, a private school or a Kansas public school," he said.



History Teacher Tom Grow





# FORTY YEARS IN SCHOOL!

## WHAT INSPIRES TEACHERS?

As you slowly make your way through the four years of high school, can you even imagine going to high school for 20 or 30 years?

Can you fathom any reason why anyone would want to stay in high school for that long? This image is highly unappealing for most students, but some people have stayed in high school for decades. Those people are teachers.

So what makes teachers want to spend year after year in a school setting?

Spanish Teacher Carol Zagoriak said, "I wanted to work with kids, but it is more than that. I could have become a social worker if that was all I wanted. I guess that I just wanted to help kids become the best that they could be."

Many teachers were inspired by a teacher from their own past academic

experiences. Still others were lead in the teaching direction by their families.

Physics Teacher Jackie Morales was inspired by the history teacher she had her senior year in high school.

"He treated us like real people. He did not act like we were just immature little kids, and I liked that. I became a teacher with the hopes that I could touch students' lives in the same way that he touched mine," Morales said.

Coaching and teaching was a perfect job for Physical Education Teacher Steve Perry, who desired to coach basketball.

"Being involved in teaching and coaching was a way I could stay involved with our youth in athletics. In today's society with athletics such a big part of life, it gave me a great opportunity to stay involved," Perry.

Math Teacher Dana

Dawson credits her mother for inspiring her to become a teacher.

"My mother really wanted me to become a teacher. She wanted the best for all people, and she thought that teaching would do that," she said.

A desperate shortage of teachers in his home country of Zaire inspired French Instructor Robert Bonsasa to become a teacher.

"We used to get a lot of Peace Corps volunteers from the United States. At one point, the project (Peace Corp) was closed in my country when we needed teachers very badly," said Bonsasa.

Each teacher had a personal reason for entering the teaching field, and maybe a CHS teacher will one day inspire a student to become a teacher as well.

Design By: Lauren Stewart  
Copy By: Rebecca Piggee



### District Office

- Anita Seibot • District Office
- Gene Banake • Board of Ed.
- Karen Grover • Youth Friends Coord.
- Charus Holton Board of Ed.
- Alan Stempleman • Board of Ed.
- Mary Ellen Young • Board of Ed.
- Don Coleman • Board of Ed.
- Gary Damron • Board of Ed.
- Robert Ogren • Board of Ed.
- Marion Poe • District Office
- Linda Gum • Dir. of Spec. Services
- Jim Houston • Computer Clerk

### Photos Not Available

- Sue Jackson • Super. of Food Services
- James Hoelzel • Supt. of Bldg./Grds.
- Richard Trager • Coord. of Cust. Serv.
- Eugene Bridges • Head Groundskeeper
- Instructors**
- George Green • Math Instructor
- Stephanie Worthy • Physical Ed. Inst.
- Krystal Hunt • Vocal Music Instructor
- Beth Marvin • History Instructor
- Leonard Fowler • Special Ed
- Holly Tiegs • Accompanist
- Cafeteria**
- Diana Alana • Cafet. Mgr.

- June Beach
- Brenda Carpenter
- Fannie Gregory
- Evelyn Perkins
- Queen Scott
- Vernabelle Summers
- Custodians**
- Gerald Cantrell
- Richard Cautholi
- William Holloway
- Charles Jones
- Ted Pilkenton
- Phyllis Singleton

### SHARING INSPIRATION

Taking time out to motivate students, first-year Principal Brian Schumann speaks to the National Honor Society inductees and their families during the induction ceremony in the Media Center.

Photo By: Josh Howard



### TAKIN' HIM DOWN

Senior Kurtis Green takes down a Raymore-Peculiar opponent during a Saturday tournament. Green wrestled all four years. Wrestlers not only had the stress of competition, but also had to worry about making weight.

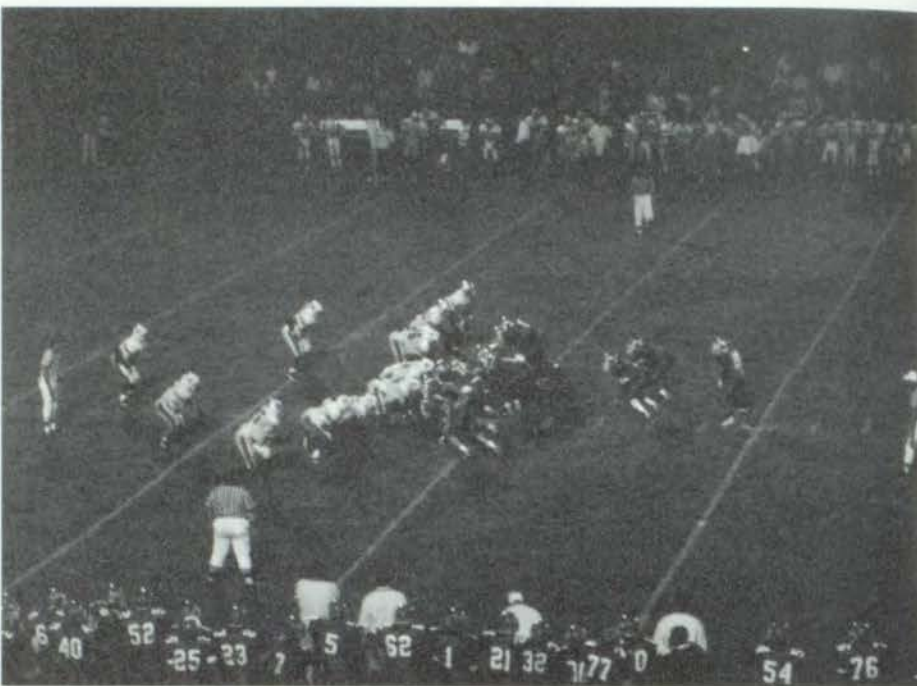
*Photo By: Alexa Vleisides*



### TEAMWORK!

Senior Kristy Hillix and Junior Heather Erickson show that teamwork is what it takes to be successful. Together, Hillix and Erickson were the team to beat in the metro area.

*Photo By: Pete Gillespie*



### GRIDIRON FAVORITES

The Yellowjackets go head to head against Hickman Mills. The team had an exceptional year, losing only one regular-season game.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*

### NECK AND NECK

Sophomore Steve Mattson paces himself to get the edge over his opponents. The cross-country team, although not as publicized as other sports, had a good season with many runners winning medals.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*





# UNDER PRESSURE

When it came to sports, students found themselves under pressure. It was their chance to be push themselves - to test their limits.

Each sport offered different challenges and talent was not hard to find.

"I play volleyball and basketball because I love to go on the court and have fun while competing," said Freshman Nicole Harstad.

To excel, grueling workouts and hours of practice was not enough for Freshman Neil Corrison, who was a soccer player and a member of the swim team. He also looked to what he believed to be his "lucky charm".

"I believe in my lucky charm - God. I also believe that the most important thing is to have fun," said Corrison. Physical fitness was important to athletes. Building healthy, fit bodies gave them an edge over their opponents.

"I wrestle and play baseball to stay in shape," said Sophomore Jeff Douglas.

Along with the benefits of sports, also came pressure. Pressure on athletes came from coaches, fellow players and parents. However, the toughest pressure seemed to come from the athletes themselves.

"I play basketball because it is something I love to do. There is always the pressure to win, but the main pressure is the pressure I put upon myself," said Senior Theo Williams.

Sophomore Ginger Damron agreed.

"In cross country, you compete for the best time and everyone has

to do well in order to win," she said.

Senior Crystal Matthews said pressure from teammates was stressful as well.

" You have to work as a team if you want to be good. You also have to compete against people you do not know get along with them," said

and Matthews.

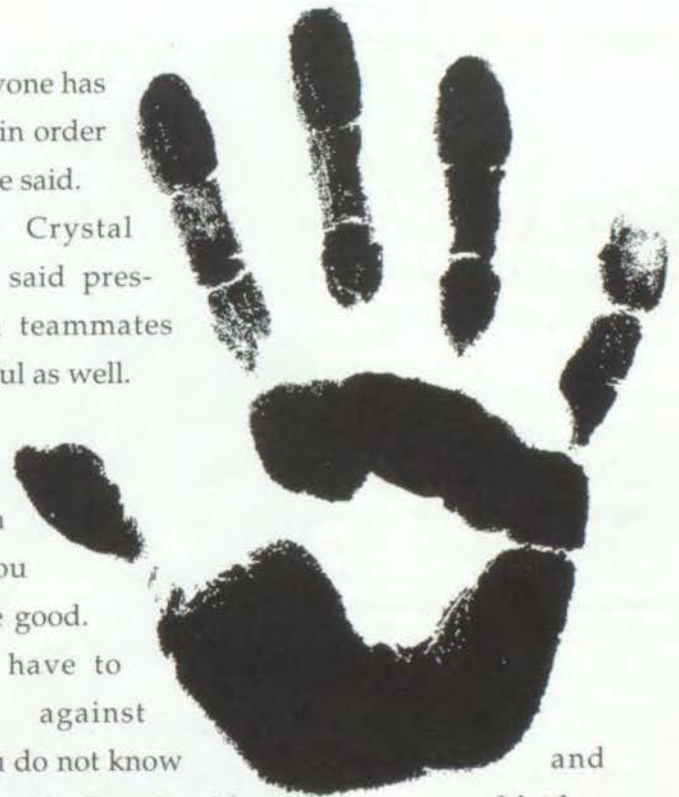
Athletic competition was important to students. They dealt with the various pressures and rose to success.



## TEAM UNITY

The Varsity Volleyball Team show their camaraderie before a big game. Game time was a time not only to compete, but also to develop friendships and show unity.

Photo By: Lisa Sorensen



Design By: Heidi Hamilton-Brake  
Copy By: Daniece Moreland



### NO MERCY

Junior Pete Davis has no mercy on this Cardinal defender. The team battled many tough and physical opponents during the season

*Photo By: Jill Montgomery*



**Boys' Varsity Soccer Team: Row One:** Josh Patterson, Jimmy Druen, Kevin Hill, Paul Lillis, Craig Robinson, Jason Mensing, Kevin Hill **Row Two:** Coach Andy Hanch, Mike Weiland, Peter Gillespie, Peter Davis, Graham Brown, Brian Fuller, Madison Smart, Joe Craig, Steve Matson, Jeff Landes, Coach Chuck Dusky



# SCORE BOARD

Center	0	Lee's Summit No.	3	L
Center	0	Topeka	4	L
Center	2	Raymore-Peculiar	3	L
Center	2	Belton	4	L
Center	0	Grandview	5	L
Center	4	Raymore-Peculiar	1	W
Center	1	Hickman	0	W
Center	1	O'Hara	2	L
Center	0	Raytown South	3	L
Center	2	Belton	1	W
Center	6	Harrisonville	1	W
Center	1	Raymore-Peculiar	1	T
Center	5	Hickman	1	W
Center	1	Raytown South	2	L
Center	1	Pembroke Hill	0	W
Center	1	O'Hara	2	L
Center	0	Bishop Leblond	6	L

**Record 6-10-1**



### TAKING CONTROL

Waiting for his team to set up, Senior Goal Keeper Brian Fuller barks out a few commands. Center went on to lose this game to Raytown South 2-1.

*Photo By: Jill Montgomery*

### PUSH IT TO THE LIMIT

Graham Brown uses fast footwork to get by his opponent. Brown faced each practice as if it were a game in order to prepare for tough situations.

*Photo By: Jill Montgomery*



# MAKING GOALS WHILE DRIBBLING IN ACTION

In order to succeed, the Boys' Varsity Soccer Team's summer was cut short. Practice started during the heat of summer. Dedication was required of all players – dedication strong enough to attend intense practices in 90 degree heat.

The sacrifice was worth it according to many players.

"I play soccer because it is fun, challenging and it's good exercise," said Senior Jeff Landes.

On the other hand, soccer had to grow on Senior Madison Smart.

"I am not sure why I started playing soccer. Since I was five-years-old, I played every

season. After awhile I began to love it," Smart said.

Hot, rigorous practices were required to stay in shape and to make an impression on spectators.

"I play soccer every weekend, mainly because I like it, but I also want to be good at it," said Senior Brian Fuller.

Junior Pete Davis did not limit his playing time to one season.

"I play soccer for the school in the fall, indoor soccer in the winter, outdoor soccer in the spring and sometimes in the summer. Basically, I play all year round," said Davis.

Along with practice, came

the desire to impress. According to Junior Kevin Hill, his most impressive game was in Belton.

"The Belton away game was the best. I knocked a lot of big people down, and by the end of the game, their whole team was mad at me!" said the five-foot-tall Hill.

Paul Lillis also had a memorable game.

"My best game was when we played O'Hara – the last game of the year. I had a hurt foot, but I still think I played my heart out and gave it my all," said Lillis.

Senior Pete Gillespie remembered a particular play that he could pull off success-

fully.

"I made a corner kick, cleaning up, and scored a goal at a home game against Hickman Mills," said Gillespie.

According to Senior Graham Brown, the best part of his game was controlling and passing the ball.

Injuries were common among the soccer players during the '96 season which adversely affected the team's record. However, the end of the season picked up and the soccer players were satisfied with the effort of the team.

*Design By: Lauren Stewart  
Copy By: Danience Moreland*



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## PRESSURE PLAYERS

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"I felt good about this year. Everyone gave their all.

Unfortunately, it was not enough, but the season was one that I will never forget."  
*Senior Brian Fuller*

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# SCORE BOARD

## Varsity Volleyball Team Scores

Opponent	Scores	W/L
Odessa	8-15, 1-1	L
Grandview	4-15, 4-15	L
Central	13-15, 13-15	L
Ruskin	16-14, 15-10	W
Belton	5-15, 10-15	L
Raytown South	1-15, 1-15	L
Raymore Peculiar	4-15, 4-15	L
Excelsior Springs	2-15, 6-15	L
Hickman Mills	5-15, 15-12, 6-15	L
Ruskin	15-6, 13-15, 12-15	L
Belton	5-15, 3-15	L
Raytown South	4-15, 3-15	L
Hickman Mills	9-15, 10-15	L

Record 1-12



**Volleyball Team:** Row One: Angela Kartsonis, Missie Brittain Row Two: Beth Mittlestadt, Cassandra Grantham, Dana Bassore, Tiffany Smith, Stephanie Nichols, Amy Johnson Row Three: Coach Danny Tipton, Ashley Prater, Carrie Howard, Nichole Harstad, Tara Tischer, Amy Mitchell, Coach Stephanie Worthy

### LOOKING TO SCORE

Freshman Cheryl Carrol looks to receive a set from a teammate. Working on perfecting skills was important to teammates.

*Photo By: Missie Brittain*



### TAKE A BREATHER

Nicole Harstad and other varsity players take a break to unwind during halftime. The team made it a goal to improve on their previous record.

*Photo By: Missie Brittain*

### EYES ON WINNING

Teamwork and unity were a part of being successful. While all eyes were on the ball, minds were set on winning.

*Photo By: Missie Brittain*



## NETWORKING! PLAYERS VOLLEY FOR UNITY

Volleyball team members had a weight on their shoulders during the '96 season.

However, in spite of a trying season, players served their team, coach, fans and themselves well. This took determination and a drive that could send any volleyball up and over the net with just a touch of a finger. Some of the most respectable attributes about the team was the motivation they showed and how well they were able to look past their differences and work with one another.

"It took a lot of trying to learn to work together as a team and not as individuals," said Freshman Dana Bassore.

One individual who stood beside her players was Head Coach Stephanie Worthy. The '96 season was Worthy's first coaching at Center. She agreed that working together was essential for the players and their performance.

"That was my most difficult challenge - having the girls work as a team," Worthy said.

Another person who held the team together was Senior Missie Brittain, who played volleyball all four years of her high-school career. Brittain served as a mentor to the players.

"Missie was a great help. Without her and Coach, our team wouldn't have come together," said Tara Tischer.

The first win of the season seemed to gel the players.

"It was our best game because of the fact that we played as a team," said Brittain.

On a down note, Brittain was injured during the season, and the team had to learn to go on without her.

"We were really upset. We went to go visit her after she had her knee surgery. But as they say, the game must go on," said Tischer.

While the team had its share of spikes, bumps and serves, they also had their share of volleying with decisions that would make them successful.

*Design By: Lauren Stewart  
Copy By: Rebecca Piggee*

## PRESSURE PLAYERS

Freshman Nicole Harstad was an all-around athlete. Harstad was one of two freshmen on the Varsity Volleyball Team and the only freshman on the Varsity Basketball Team.

"I guess being athletic just comes as a natural gift. It's something I don't take for granted. It was an honor to be on both varsity teams," said Harstad.



# SCORE BOARD

## Junior Varsity Soccer Team

Center	0	Lee's Summit North	3	L
Center	0	Topeka	4	L
Center	2	Raymore Peculiar	3	L
Center	2	Belton	4	L
Center	0	Grandview	5	L
Center	4	Raymore Peculiar	1	W
Center	1	Hickman	0	W
Center	1	O'Hara	2	L
Center	0	Raytown South	3	L
Center	2	Belton	1	W

**Record 3-7**

### KICKIN' IT!

On and on it rolls, where it stops, nobody knows. Freshman Leif Wisdahl kicks the ball, then watches to see if he was successful.

*Photo By: Jill Montgomery*



## PRESSURE PLAYERS

"I believe one of the main reasons I like soccer would have to be the ability to put a ball in action. Soccer requires a lot of concentration, quick action and skill. It's a world-wide sport. People don't know football in every country, but everyone recognizes soccer."

*Sophomore  
Scott Reaves*

### GETTING IT GOING

The Junior Varsity Soccer Team picks up momentum after a slow start. Freshman Nick Scheuerman helped kick things off and got the game going.

*Photo By: Jill Montgomery*



### PLAYIN' TO WIN!

Junior Varsity players began the new season with a lot of energy and determination. Crowds looked on in hopes of a win.

*Photo By: Missie Brittain*



**Junior Varsity Soccer Team: Row One:** Jeff Hill, Naveed Siddiqi, Scott Reaves, Adrian Feeber, Joey Brake, Nick Scheuerman, Neil Corriston **Row Two:** Coach Andy Hanch, Brian Singer, Kenny Mayfield, Randy Green, Jeff Peak, Brandon Bailey, Scott Shannon, Craig Robison, Coach Chuck Duske



# HAVING A BALL!

## J.V. TEAMS KICK IT

Junior Varsity soccer and volleyball players faced another season with several new players along the side returning members. New players were faced with several challenges, including learning the routine of teamwork.

"Trying to adapt to the team took awhile," said Freshman Amy Mitchell.

Freshman Nicholas Scheuerman faced the same challenge.

"Getting to know the people on the team was important because I had never played soccer with them before," he said.

Both J.V. teams

experienced successful seasons.

According to Amy Johnson, the volleyball players saw a lot of improvement throughout the season.

"At all the games, we saw improvement. That's what really mattered," Johnson said.

Freshman Connie Jansens felt the same.

"Working to better ourselves as a team was a part of what we had to face the entire season," Jansens said.

When they weren't working to improve their skills, both J.V. teams found time to have fun.

"On the bus rides home,

we would sing and tell jokes, even if we had been defeated," said Mitchell.

Freshman Jeff Hill had some fun, but embarrassing moments as well during the season.

"When I spilled the water jug on my pants, it looked like I had an accident," he confessed.

Through both the difficult times, as well as the funny, players did have successful moments as well.

"I will always remember getting my first goal that won the game," said Freshman Neil Corrison.

Fellow player Scherurman also kicked a winning goal.

"I scored the winning goal in a shootout against O'Hara," said Scheuerman.

J.V. Volleyball players also tasted success. The highlight of their season was taking second place in a junior varsity tournament.

"I was so proud of us," said Mitchell. "It was the highlight of the whole season because we were able to see all of our hard work and efforts pay off."

Whether kicking, spiking, bumping or just joking around with teammates, the J.V. volleyball and soccer players had a ball.

*Design By: Lauren Stewart  
Copy By: Rebecca Piggee*



# SCORE BOARD

J.V. Volleyball		
Opponent	Scores	W/L
Belton	2-15, 7-15	L
Raytown South	9-15, 15-10, 15-6	W
Raymore-Peculiar	7-15, 11-15	L
Hickman Mills	15-12, 15-7	W
Odessa	4-15, 5-15	L
Grandview	6-15, 10-15	L
Central	15-11, 15-1	W
Belton	15-13, 7-15	W
Raytown South	14-16, 11-15	L
Excelsior Springs	8-15, 1-15	L
Hickman Mills	15-8, 15-6	W

**Record 5-6**

### BOOSTING MORALE

A quick pep talk among players gives the extra confidence and reassurance needed before the game. Coaches were often the cornerstone of the team.

*Photo By: Missie Brittain*



# CHAMPIONS!!

## TEAM UNITY LEADS TO SUCCESS

The Girls' Tennis Team came into the season with new Coach Gary Smith, new goals and a new team, all of which boosted the team to a Conference championship.

"I really got help from the new coach, which made me and the team much better. That is why we had such a successful season," said Sophomore Leanna Carpenter.

Although the team was small, practice and games were interesting and fun throughout the season.

"We had a lot of fun. Since

we were such a small team, it felt like we were a family," said Senior Kori Crawford.

Determination and confidence also played a part in the team's success.

Freshman Melinda Grandi said, "With our level of confidence and determination, we believed that we could win certain tennis matches and that is what we did."

According to Sophomore Monica Shipman, team members wanted to prove to both themselves and others that they could beat the highest-rated teams.

"We beat Raymore-Peculiar and they were a tough competitor. We proved to ourselves that we were great when it came to tennis," Shipman said.

With new goals in mind, they reached high and came back as Conference Champions.

"We went out there with our goals in mind and it proved to really work at Conference. We all felt really proud," said Senior Amy Kearney.

Led with determination, the team proved to be more suc-

cessful than they were the previous season.

"We were more successful this year than last year because we just worked harder," said Junior Hajah Kamara.

The team entered the season with reservations, not knowing what kind of season a new coach would bring, according to Senior Jessica Brooks.

However, led by their new coach, they proved success can happen with a mixture of determination and hard work.

*Design By: Natasha Walker  
Copy By: Dana Battin*

## SCORE BOARD

### Girls' Tennis Team

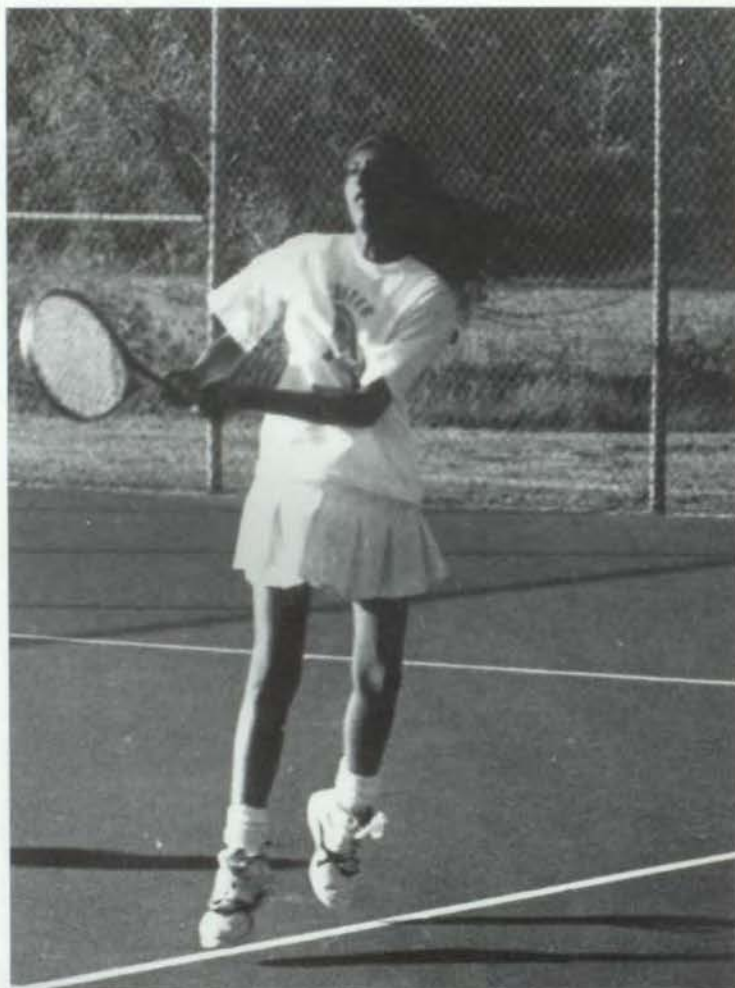
Center	6	O'Hara	1	W
Center	5	Belton	2	W
Center	3	Raymore Peculiar	4	L
Center	3	Barstow	4	L
Center	5	Hickman Mills	2	W
Center	6	Ruskin	1	W
Center	4	Lincoln	3	W
Center	4	Raymore-Peculiar	3	W
Center	3	Excelsior Springs	4	L
Center	4	Hickman Mills	3	W
Center	2	Excelsior Springs	5	L
Center	6	Ruskin	1	W

**Record 8-4**

### PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT

Freshman Mary Ajarapu practices her follow-through during a home match at Minor Park Courts. Dedication and hard work during practice led to success during actual games.

*Photo By: Jill Montgomery*







### STRIVING FOR PERFECTION

Freshman Melinda Grandi tries to perfect her serve. Players worked hard to develop a perfect serve.

*Photo By: Jill Montgomery*



**Girls' Tennis Team: Row One:** Amy Kearney, Heather Erickson, Kori Crawford, Jill Montgomery, Kristy Hillix, Alexa Vleisides **Row Two:** Melinda Grandi, Christina VanLeeuwen, Leanna Carpenter, Hajah Kamara, Munachim Uzomah, Monica Shipman, Mary Ajarapu **Row Three:** Coach Gary Smith



## PRESSURE PLAYERS

**"It was great being on a Conference-Championship team."  
Junior Jill Montgomery**

### DOUBLE INTENSITY

Senior Kristy Hillix and Junior Heather Erickson prepare for a doubles match. The duo proved powerful against their opponents.

*Photo By: Alexa Vleisides*



# RUNNING TO WIN GOING THE EXTRA MILE!

It all began under the hot August sun. The Cross Country Team entered a new season full of hope and equipped with fresh goals.

"My goal for the season was to run my best and just have fun," said Sophomore Sedric Hibler.

Along with many individual goals, Coach Bruce Rehmer led the team with his main goal in mind.

"My goal for the team was to train hard and keep cross country in line for upcoming years," Rehmer said.

The girls' team was unified and consistent, although they did not run

often as a team.

Freshman Gina Soldi said, "Even though we ran as a girls' team only once at Conference, we each had individual stand-outs."

The team consisted of only 12 runners. However, the team thought their small size had its advantages.

"It was cool having such a small team, but I do wish more people would have run," said Junior Charles McNeil.

Runners on the team had certain expectations for themselves as well as for the team, and found strength and support from fellow runners.

"I was hoping that

everyone on the team would finish every race and improve their times," said Sophomore Bret Eubank.

According to Freshman Becky Foshee, Coach Rehmer was a great asset to the team.

"Without Coach, I think that I would not have run as well as I did," she said. "It helps when you've got a coach who is willing to work with you."

Throughout the season, the team worked out as a team.

"We ran hard and together that made it fun to practice," said Freshman Naveed Siddiqi.

With only two seniors on

the team, the underclassmen were forced to raise their level of competitiveness. Freshmen felt that running with different age groups was a challenging experience.

"I'm glad I got to run with the seniors. I felt I had more competition since they had run for four years," said Freshman Steve John.

Although the team did not have a record-breaking season, team members felt that the season brought success through hard work and comraderie.

*Design By: Natasha Walker  
Copy By: Dana Battin*

## SCORE BOARD

### Cross Country Team

<b>Conference Meet</b>	Girls	5th
	Boys	5th
<b>District Meet</b>	Rebecca Piggee	32nd
	Chritian Nord	16th
	Becky Foshee	22nd
<b>State Qualifier</b>	Dana Battin	



**Cross Country Team:** Row One: Naveed Siddiqi, Ginger Damron, Gina Soldi, Dana Battin, Sedric Hibler, Coach Bruce Rehmer Row Two: Mike Daniel, Steve Mattson, Christian Nord, Eric John, Charles McNeil, Kenny Daniel, Steve John Not Pictured: Rebecca Piggee, Becky Foshee, Brett Eubank





### FINISH A WINNER

Gina Soldi, freshman, stays with her opponent from Liberty all the way to the finish line. Many runners said pacing was one of the most difficult parts of a cross country competition.

*Photo By: Kay Nord*

### ON YOUR MARKS...

The starting gun sounds, and the runners are off. The boys' team anxiously awaited this sound every Saturday during their season. Almost every meet was held bright and early on Saturday mornings.

*Photo By: Kay Nord*



## PRESSURE PLAYERS

"This team really helped me out - especially in my last two races."

*Senior Rebecca Piggee*

### CONCENTRATION!

Sophomores Bret Eubank and Steve Mattson push themselves toward the finish line. Constant concentration during a race was required to finish with a good time, they said.

*Photo By: Kay Nord*



## HEARTBREAK CITY

The offensive line works hard blocking against Webb City. After the loss to Webb City – hopes of a State championship vanished. When the last second ticked off the clock, hearts of fans, coaches and players were collectively broken.

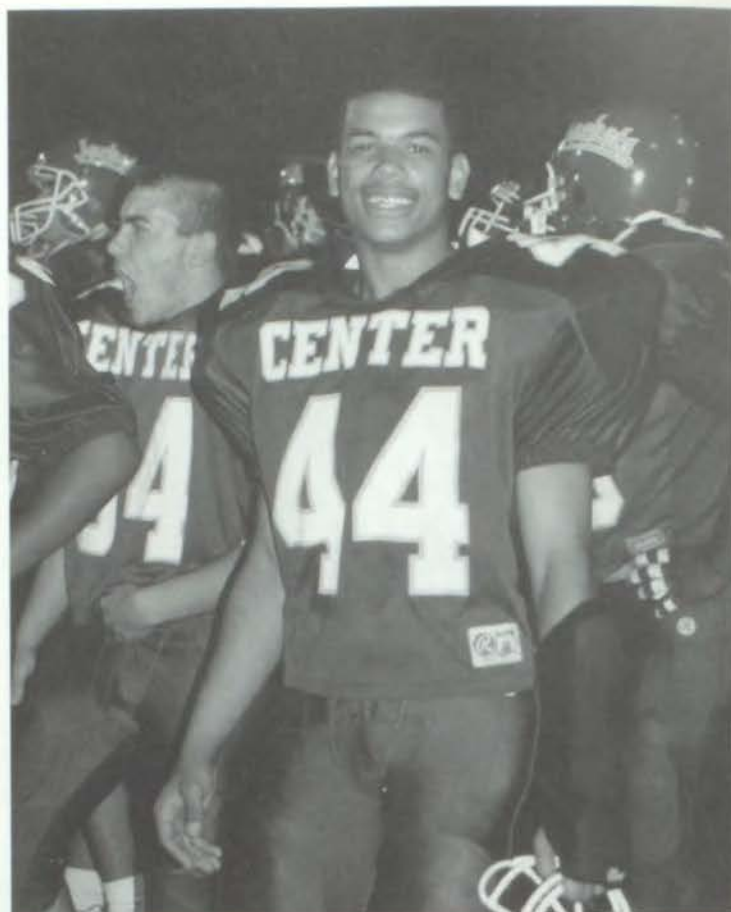
*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



## TASTING SUCCESS

Senior C.J. Jaggars takes a second to flash a smile for the camera during a pause in the gridiron action. Jaggars, along with his teammates, enjoyed being a part of a successful season.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



## PRESSURE PLAYERS

"I am determine to play harder, be stronger and run faster than any other player on the field."

*Strong Safety  
Vincent Harris*

"I believe the important thing about football is to have fun."

*Running Back  
Ivan Masterson*



## PLANNING TO WIN

Senior Joe Byers and Junior John Perkins discuss the team's next plan of attack. *Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*

## GETTING HYPER

The Varsity Football players cheer one another on at a pep assembly held before District play-offs.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



# ON THE FIELD

## TEAM WINS DISTRICT TITLE

Grueling practices in the hot summer sun, and hours of working out in the rain, snow and freezing temperatures paid off for the Varsity Football Team. They ended the season with a District title and only one regular-season loss.

Due to the pre-season conditioning, the Yellowjackets formed a physically-fit and mentally-set power machine.

"During the pre-season, we had an excellent football camp that helped out our returning players," said Assistant Football Coach Greg Lang.

The team met their first opponent, Kearney, and from

there, confidence prevailed.

Junior Garrett Damron said, "After our first win against Kearney, the team's confidence level just went up."

With many returning players and coaches, the team looked to the seniors for leadership.

"With all the seniors on the team and their level of experience, it was comforting knowing that we had great players," said Sophomore Kelvin Haynes.

Freshman John Milone agreed that the seniors had much to offer the underclassmen.

"Once we learned from their experience, we knew

what we needed to do and how to become accustomed to varsity play," said Milone.

The coaches inspired the players to work hard and this inspiration helped throughout the season.

"We set out to work hard and we consistently did just that," said Assistant Coach George Green.

The team had one main goal throughout the season, and that was to win the State title. After a heartbreaking loss to Webb city in Regional play, that hope was dashed. However, coaches, players and fans were happy with the successful season.

"It took me a while to get

over it (the loss to Webb City), but I tried to have a positive attitude about it," said Senior Corey Belvins.

Senior Joe Byers agreed that disappointment was present, but pride was felt as well.

"We tried our best and I was very proud, even though we didn't win State, which was our team goal," said Senior Joe Byers.

According to Head Coach Dave Bassore, the Jackets had an exceptional season.

"We were proud of the young group of men we worked with," he said.

*Design By: Natasha Walker  
Copy By: Dana Battin*



**Varsity Football Team: Row One:** Andrew Vleisides, Previn Mingo, Chris Berry, John Young, Joe Byers, Kurtis Green, Ron Franklin, Eric Boyd, Corey Blevins, Vincent Harris **Row Two:** Head Coach Dave Bassore, Kelvin Haynes, Ivan Masterson, Johnny Perkins, Aaron Jones, Heath Norton, Thomas Courtney, C.J. Jagers, David Hicks, Willie Wilkins, Coach George Green **Row Three:** Coach Derick Hammes, Garrett Damron, Kevin Border, James Nimrod, Lucas Conard, Lemuel Coleman, Steve Echols, Damon Daniels, Carl Grandi, Henry Johnson, Ryan Knickerbocker, Coach Greg Lang **Row Four:** Coach Jim Ford, Brent Shelby, Chris Gray, Adrian Smith, Reggie Willams, Shamal Samual, Pete Taylor, Mike McCrory, Brian Edwards, Eric Rhymes, Coach Ed Fritz **Row Five:** Darren Stone, William Bell, Antoine Martin, Justin Leffler, T.J. Johnson, William Teel, Brant Campbell, John Milone, Nick Snorgrass, Zach Peister, Quinton Riarde, Bruce McAfee, Robert Taylor, William Runnels, Ben Scherwin, Coach Matt Bolch

# SCORE BOARD

Center	38	Kearney	0	W
Center	48	Ruskin	6	W
Center	42	Pembroke Hill	0	W
Center	31	Wyandotte	30	W
Center	38	Hickman Mills	22	W
Center	51	Raytown South	6	W
Center	23	Excelsior Springs	28	L
Center	42	Belton	20	W
Center	38	Raymore-Peculiar	20	W
Center	36	Grandview	8	W
Center	7	Webb City (Regionals)	34	L

**Record 9-2**





#### OFFENSIVE MOVES

Sophomore Adrian Smith hands the ball off to Sophomore Steve Echols. Quickness and an eye for an opening within the defensive line was a definite asset for Center running backs.

*Photo By: Jill Montgomery*

#### WORKING TOGETHER

The offensive line works hard on blocking against Raymore Peculiar. Working together was one of the most important aspects to winning the game.

*Photo By: Jill Montgomery*

## SCORE BOARD

Center	8	Kearney	18	L
Center	0	Ruskin	18	L
Center	16	Hogan	6	W
Center	16	Hickman Mills	30	L
Center	8	Raytown South	34	L
Center	28	Excelsior Springs	42	L
Center	6	Belton	26	L
Center	0	Raymore Peculiar	14	L

**Record 1-7**





## PRESSURE PLAYERS

"My playing improved a lot throughout the season since the coaches were helpful."

*Freshman Ben Scherwin*

### BRAVING THE ELEMENTS

Against the cold and rain, the Freshman Football Team squares off against Raymore-Peculiar.

*Photo By: Jill Montgomery*

# WHEN PRESSURE IS ON TEAM SUPPORT GIVES ENERGY

The Freshmen football season started off with high expectations and also set new goals for the season.

Freshman Wendall Bell said, "Our goal for the team was to just win as many games as we could and gain as much experience as possible for next year."

The team had a lot of spirit and support for each other. Most members of the team agreed that having support for one another went a long way - especially when it came to football.

"Before games we would always get into a hussle and the coach would give a speech to energize us for the

game," said Freshman Justin Woodling.

Since the team was twice as big as it was the previous year, players possessed an attitude that had little to do with athletic ability but a lot to do with fun.

Coach Ed Fritz said, "We wanted these younger guys to have fun but to also work hard to gain a position on the varsity team."

Many freshmen played football at the middle school last year. This was a big advantage to some of the players.

"I think that since so many played at the middle school last year, that made an

advantage for us," said Freshman Jason Bessenbacher.

The football team practiced an average of 10 hours a week on the field. This included football drills, running, stretching and lifting weights.

"We practiced really hard because when it was over, I had a lot of sore muscles," said Freshman William Teel.

Of the 10 games the football team played, one was memorable for many of the players.

"The game against Bishop Hogan was most memorable because we went out and played hard and we ended up winning," said Freshman John Fulks.

In addition to the winning and the scoring, the freshman football team relied on the play of their offense.

"Our defense was what kept us in good shape for most of the season," said Coach George Green.

Although the team finished 1-9 for the season, they found success on their own within the team.

"Our success came from the people who played and from everything we learned from the coaches this year," said Freshman Nick Snorgrass.

*Design By: Natasha Walker  
Copy By: Dana Battin*



# EXCELLENT SEASON BUT LITTLE SATISFACTION WITHOUT A TRIP TO STATE

The 1996-97 basketball season was supposed to be a long and exciting one. After all, the Jackets were returning four starters and came within one game of the State playoffs last year. Instead, the season was cut short by a disappointing 72-64 loss to Southwest in the District championship game.

"We had a good year - not as good as we would have liked - but we had fun and enjoyed playing together," said Junior Guard Jason Harris.

The team finished with a 17-10 record, with four of the losses coming in overtime.

"Our four over-time losses

were very disappointing, but they were to very good teams. Without those losses, our record would have looked much better," said Head Coach Ed Fritz.

With the loss of Seniors Theo Williams, Dathan Wilson, John Young, Ron Franklin, Corey Blevins and Herb Brown, the Jackets faced a rebuilding year for the 97-98 season.

Sophomore Mike McCrory said, "Next year we'll see what we're made of and we all hope to improve our game over the summer."

With the return of McCrory and Harris in addition to some

junior varsity players moving up to the varsity level next year, the Jackets hoped to be on the way to yet another successful season. Although Center had not won a State championship since 1976, the team believed it was time for Center to bring home another one.

"Twenty-two years is a long time to go without winning a State title, but I have confidence in myself and the rest of the team and I believe one is within reach next year," said Harris.

Senior players, although agreeing that the season was a good one, wished they could

have experienced a trip to the State championship playoffs.

"I've talked to friends who have gone to State, and they say that it's a wonderful experience and that they really had a great time," said Senior Theo Williams. "I just wish we could have had the opportunity to take that trip to Columbia," said Williams.

The team remains hopeful of a successful 1997-98 season.

"Everyone seems real optimistic about next year," said McCrory. "We're going to be just fine."

*Design By: Heidi Hamilton-Brake  
Copy By: Josh Patterson*

## SCORE BOARD

Center	62	Central	53	W
Center	61	Grandview	57	W
Center	71	Excelsior Springs	50	W
Center	74	Pembroke Hill	76	L
Center	62	Shawnee Mission East	63	L
Center	64	Raymore Peculiar	56	W
Center	67	Hickman Mills	58	W
Center	60	Belton	63	W
Center	71	Excelsior Springs	53	W
Center	69	Ruskin	63	W
Center	68	Raytown South	69	L
Center	67	Raymore Peculiar	60	W
Center	42	Raytown South	57	L
Center	58	Ruskin	62	L
Center	49	Hickman Mills	66	L
Center	68	Belton	48	W
Center	62	Blue Springs South	65	L
Center	45	Blue Springs	72	L
Center	66	Lee's Summit	51	W
Center	61	Topeka Seamen	67	L
Center	58	Shawnee Height	43	W
Center	58	Washburn Rural	57	W
Center	68	Raytown South	69	L
Center	67	Raymore Peculiar	60	W
Center	42	Raytown South	57	L
Center	58	Ruskin	62	L
Center	62	Fort Osage	53	W
Center	83	North Kansas City	66	W
Center	84	Central	80	W
Center	71	O'Hara	53	W
Center	72	Westport	45	W
Center	65	Southwest	72	L

Record 18-10



**Varsity Basketball Team:** Row One: Jason Harris, Ron Franklin, Theo Williams, Corey Blevins, Aaron Jones, Mike McCrory Row Two: Coach Ed Fritz, John Young, L.C. Reid, Herb Brown, Dathan Wilson, Marcel Smith, Coach Steve Perry







#### TEAMWORK

Members of the Varsity Basketball Team put their heads together to psych themselves up for their game. Team unity was a crucial part of their success.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



## PRESSURE PLAYERS

*"We had a lot of ups and downs this season. We hit a dry spot late, but once we got refocused, we competed pretty well."*

*Senior Ron Franklin*

#### UP AND OVER

Overcoming the defense, Senior Ron Franklin goes for a layup to score for the team. *Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*

#### SINK IT

Senior Theo Williams tosses in two to give the Jackets a lead in the game. *Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



### TEAM SPIRIT

Team members gather together before a game to motivate one another with a cheer and pep talk. Members learned over the season the value of team unity.

*Photo By: Jill Montgomery*



### TAKING CONTROL

Erica Hood, senior, takes control down court. The Girls' Basketball Team relied on excellent ball-handling skills to stay ahead.

*Photo By: Jill Montgomery*



# SCORE BOARD

Center	26	Pembroke Hill	63	L
Center	54	Blue Springs South	46	W
Center	54	Blue Springs South	51	W
Center	50	Excelsior Springs	77	L
Center	22	Blue Springs	57	L
Center	33	St. Teresa	58	L
Center	35	Ruskin	26	W
Center	25	Shawnee Mission East	48	L
Center	29	Raymore Peculiar	68	L
Center	37	Raytown South	54	L
Center	39	Sion	57	L
Center	42	Raymore Peculiar	43	L
Center	49	Excelsior Springs	57	L
Center	31	Raytown South	55	L
Center	47	Hickman Mills	24	W
Center	43	Belton	60	L
Center	50	Shawnee Mission East	77	L
Center	78	Hickman Mills	48	W
Center	46	Northeast	56	L
Center	47	Shawnee Mission East	55	W
Center	57	Hickman Mills	46	W
Center	33	Ruskin	36	L
Center	62	O'Hara	53	W
Center	64	Belton	57	W
Center	25	Shawnee Mission East	48	L
Center	29	Raymore Peculiar	68	L
Center	45	Northeast	56	L
Center	57	Fort Osage	65	L
Center	67	Westport	33	W
Center	75	Southeast	71	W
Center	60	Sion	65	L

**Record 10-15**



# GOING TO THE HOOP

## SEASON BASED ON UNITY, RESPECT AND GOAL SETTING

What started out as a team going in slow motion, soon accelerated to a mature, talented unified team. The Girls' Basketball Team overcame many obstacles, such as learning to deal with a new coach and a new way to look at the game. The pressure was on and a job had to be done, but how did these girls handle the pressure?

"Pressure is something you have to take one day at a time by staying on top of things and concentrating," said Senior Erica Hood.

On the other hand, Junior Lea Johnson gathered steam when a pressure situation came her way.

"It used to be difficult for me to play in games that really mattered - games that determined the team's rank. But I learned to step up and play my best no matter how much was at stake," said Johnson, point guard.

Stephanie Worthy, the team's new coach, faced some difficulties with learning to deal with a new team and a new place. Changes were made and habits had to be broken.

Sophomore Regan Townsend worked hard to change some aspects of her game.

"We had to learn everything over and get rid of the

old habits we had. We had to learn how to play with the other girls on the team," said Townsend.

Once the team became accustomed to the new ways of the game, their momentum was based on goals.

According to Senior Billee Runnels goals were important on the court, as well as off the court.

"One of our goals is to work as a team, both on and off the court," Runnels said.

Risa Johnson, senior, agreed that working for team unity was important to their success.

"Some struggles the team had was learning and

respecting one another and dealing with our differences on and off the court. Also, learning to take our talents and combine them to make a unified team was difficult at first," said Johnson.

Along with game techniques, Coach Worthy taught the team the importance of respect.

"Always have respect for your school, your coach, your teammates, your parents and yourself," Worthy told the team.

The team members did pull together, overcame obstacles and polished their game to end the season respectably with a 10-15 record.

*Design and Copy By:  
Danience Moreland*



**Girls' Basketball Team:** Row One: Amber Randle, Tyedia Godsy Row Two: Lynnshaunte Hoskins, Lea Johnson, Erica Hood, Crystal Matthews, Billee Runnels, Tasha Hooten, La Keisha Jackson, Ragan Townsend Row Three: Coach Leonard Fowler, Kiara Grant, Shivon Bullock, Menulique Foreman, Jalonn Sidney, Cassandra Jones, Risa Johnson, Coach Stephanie Worthy.

### TWO POINTS!

Senior Crystal Matthews shoots a freethrow. Freethrows were one of the team's forte's and important part of the game. Freethrows could make or break a game.

*Photo By: Jill Montgomery*

### TOSS IT IN

Taking a few practice shots, Junior Chivon Bullock warms up for a game. Warm ups were a way for players to get in the right mind set for the competition.

*Photo By: Jill Montgomery*



# PRESSURE PLAYERS

"I feel the team performed very well as a whole, even with the loss of so many players second semester."

Sophomore  
Leslie Lewis



Junior Varsity Basketball Team: Row One: Lamont Dixon, Charles Miller, Leslie Lewis, Brett Eubank Row Two: Jerome Harris, Fred Strother, Randy Robinson, Marcel Smith, Even Cleaver, Coach Steve Perry

## SCORE BOARD

### Freshman Boys' Basketball Team

Center	33	Ruskin	47	L
Center	32	Lincoln	45	L
Center	67	Shawnee Miss. So	43	W
Center	57	Belton	63	L
Center	51	Pembroke Hills	53	L
Center	49	Hickman Mills	52	L
Center	50	Hogan	52	L
Center	28	Raymore Peculiar	38	L
Center	53	Ruskin	56	L
Center	48	Hogan	51	L

Record 1-9

## SCORE BOARD

### Junior Varsity Basketball Team

Center	34	Central	81	L
Center	44	Grandview	75	L
Center	67	Excelsior Springs	43	W
Center	43	Pembroke Hills	40	W
Center	52	Raymore-Peculiar	51	W
Center	37	Hickman Mills	59	L
Center	54	Belton	36	W
Center	38	Excelsior Springs	50	L
Center	57	Ruskin	38	W
Center	44	Raytown South	71	L
Center	56	Raymore Peculiar	61	L
Center	40	Raytown South	83	L
Center	46	Hickman Mills	67	L
Center	46	Ruskin	43	W
Center	67	Belton	66	W
Center	63	Blue Valley NW	75	L
Center	52	Blue Valley	55	L
Center	54	Turner	49	W

Record 8-10



# ABOVE THE RIM

## TEAM GOES BEYOND EXPECTATIONS

The Junior Varsity Basketball team had one goal in mind—to go out and play each game to their potential. According to Head J.V. Coach Steve Perry, the team did just that.

"We wanted to be competitive and improve throughout the year. I felt we had a chance to be a .500 ball club," Perry said.

The team finished the season just one game short of .500, with a record of 8-10.

The season overall went well, according to Perry, considering only one player on the team returned with previous experience. This lack of experience was a huge hurdle

for the team to overcome. However, the team came together throughout the season and gained valuable playing experience.

The team's strength was its defensive quickness. However, as the season progressed, they also developed into a good outside shooting team, sinking 73 percent from three-point range.

"We really matured into a very competitive team, and we were playing some of our best ball at the end of the season," said Perry. "I was very pleased with this team."

Leslie Lewis agreed. "We were a strong, talented ball

club. Our record could have been better," he said.

Team Captains Randy Robinson and Bret Eubank did a good job showing leadership during the season. In addition, Jerome Harris and Leslie Lewis also played key roles in the team's success. They all contributed in some way. However, Eubank acquired the hustle award, according to Perry.

Robinson led in scoring, averaging 14.3 points per game. Evan Cleaver was not far behind, averaging 14.0 points per game. Harris averaged 10.4 and Lewis averaged 9.2 points per game.

"This team was a lot of fun to work with. They practiced hard and were eager to learn. Through tough times, they hung together and learned that playing together as a team, no matter what the number, that they could compete and win," said Perry.

The freshman team, finished the season with a disappointing record of 1-9.

Freshman Coach Dave Bassore attributed their record to a lack of experience and youth.

The freshman ball season helped to build confidence and polish skills in order to compete at varsity level.

*Design By: Heidi Hamilton-Brake  
Copy By: Kathy Yates*



**Freshman Basketball Team:** Row One: Derek Ewing, Jeff Peak, Rashid Salaam, John Milone, Demond Gates, Scott Shanahan Row Two: Norman McDonald, Kody Williams, Wendall Bell, Quinton Rivarde, T.J. Johnson, Kyle Johnson



# BRUTE STRENGTH

## WRESTLERS UNITE TO FIND SUCCESS

The Wrestling tTeam had it rough. They ran miles and miles to build muscles, but still they had to keep their weight within a range of a few pounds. They found motivation to keep themselves going, although practice was difficult.

"Wrestling could be considered one of the most difficult, strenuous sports. It requires brute strength, quick reflexes, and a keen mind, and killer instincts to be a champion," said Jason Mensing, junior. "We had to

train ourselves to be all of these things. It was hard but we looked to each other for support. If one of us was doing well, it would motivate the rest of us to do well, also," he said.

Team unity was crucial to get through the season. They set goals and then rooted each other on to reach those goals.

"We all wanted to go to State, but it was unlikely that all of us could make it. We were very fortunate to have even three guys representing us. We were proud of them,"

said Senior Mike Wieland.

Senior Eric Boyd and Juniors Garrett Damron and Jason Mensing wrestled their way to State competition. To qualify for the meet, they had to at least place fourth in Districts. Damron got fifth place in the 189-pound weight class. Mensing received seventh place in the 135-pound weight class, and Damron received fifth place in the 171-pound weight class.

The three State qualifiers felt very honored to have the opportunity to wrestle at such

a high level of competition.

"The State meet is for the best of the best. It was awesome to go there. That was some of the best competition I have ever had. I've never had a feeling like that before," said Damron.

Boyd had the same experience at State.

"I was so incredibly happy to go to State. I worked for so many years to get there, when I finally did, it was rewarding to go. It was an indescribable feeling," he said.

*Copy and Design By:  
Ashley Prater*

## PRESSURE PLAYERS

### All-Conference Wrestlers

#### Second Team

Cliff Juan - 103 lb.

Jason Mensing - 135 lb.

Garret Damron - 171 lb.

#### Honorable Mention

Jim Druen - 112 lb.

Eric Boyd - 145 lb.

### Record

Jackets 48 St. Pius X 28

Jackets 74 Ruskin 0

Jackets 15 Ray-Pec 59

Jackets 37 Hickman 31

Jackets 24 St. Joe Laf. 45

Jackets 8 Ray South 64

Jackets 24 Warrensburg 52

Jackets 18 Harrisonville 39

Jackets 18 Ex. Springs 54

Jackets 18 Beltons 53

### Record 4-6



### OVERCOME THE ODDS

Freshman Clifford Juan tries to work his way off the bottom. Juan wrestled in the 103-pound class.

*Photo By: Alexa Vleisides*

### THE MEET OF CHAMPS

Raises his arm in victory, Junior Jason Mensing leaves a dejected opponent in his wake as he clinches seventh place in the 135-pound weight class at the state championship meet in Columbia.

*Photo By: Jeff Douglas*





### MEETING OF CHAMPS

Garret Damron struggles to take control of his opponent. Damron, who was excited to go to State, enjoyed the chance to compete against the state's best.

*Photo By: Jeff Douglas*

### TOUGH COMPETITION

Junior Kevin Hill works for the pin during a Saturday tournament. Hill wrestled oin the 112-pound weight class. Although he did not advance to State, Hill had a successful season.

*Photo By: Alexa Vleisides*



**Wrestling Team:** Row One: Jake Simpson, Jimmy Druen, Jason Mensing, Jeff Douglas, Carl Grandi, Thomas Courtney, Eric Boyd, Ryan Hornbeck, Lief Wisdal Row Two: Beth Mittlestadt, Stephanie Nichols, Justin Caplin, Mike Juan, Kevin Hill, Cliff Juan, Coach Rick Smith Row Three: Coach Alan Isom, Kevin Corbin, Kurtis Green, Nathan Peister, Zac Peister, Garrett Damron, Brent Campbell

### THE BEST OF THE BEST

Senior Eric Boyd takes control in his third match at the State Wrestling Tournament in Columbia. Boyd wrestled in the 160-pound weight class.

*Photo By: Jeff Douglas*





### BOYS OF SUMMER

Juniors Charlie Hosterman, Chuck McNeil and Mat Peterson take a moment from practice to goof around. The players waited impatiently for the snow to melt and the temperatures to rise so that they could begin baseball season.

*Photo By: Jeff Douglas*

## PRESSURE PLAYERS

“Coming off of a losing season last year, I am pretty excited with the coming of the new year. I expect a lot from this year’s Jackets.”

**Senior Vincent Harris**



**Baseball Team: Row One:** Ross Wiseman, Kevin Schwert, Andrew Orstead, Kevin Hill, Curtis Green, Vince Harris, Glen Juan, Peter Gillespie **Row Two:** Josh Hall, Joe Redick, Brent Shelby, Mat Peterson, Chuck McNeil, Jeremy Atencio, Charlie Hosterman, Lillian Pegelow **Row Three:** Cliff Juan, Nick Scheuerman, Quinten Randal, Robby Williams, Adrian Smith, Jeff Peak, Clint Williams, John Milone, Reggie Williams, Jeff Douglas, Carl Grandi, Louie Juan





# SWING INTO SPRING

## BASEBALL TEAM TAKES THE FIELD

New rules, new teachers and a new principal followed right along with the year's theme, "New Beginning and Renaissance." Another new aspect was added to that list: A new baseball coach.

When baseball practice began in March, Derick Hammes was the man calling the shots from the dugout. Hammes, the physical education teacher at Red Bridge Elementary, received the varsity head coach position in August.

This job marked Hammes' first year coaching baseball. However, Hammes had four years of football coaching experience, including the past season as a defensive-back coach for Center's District Championship football team.

Hammes said he felt he

knew what it would take to have a winning '97 season.

"What I lack in baseball-coaching experience, I make up for with my football coaching experience," said Hammes.

"A lot of things will carry over, such as an emphasis on practice and preparation," he said.

Some players did just that. Bret Eubank, sophomore, practiced and prepared before the season began.

"I've tried to go to the batting cages at least once a week, getting prepared for a great season," Eubank said.

Most players seemed to look forward to the new season with a new head coach.

"I'm looking forward to learning under a new coach, even if it is his first year,"

Sophomore Carl Grandi said.

Other players, like Senior Vince Harris, who was also on the football team, worked with Hammes during football season, and looked forward to working with him again.

"Coach Hammes is a nice guy and easy to get along with. I think the baseball season would go all right with him coaching," said Harris.

Varsity finished the '96 season with a regular-season record of 4-14, but emerged as District champs.

According to the coaches, the success of the '96 post season was an important indicator of the success of the '97 season.

Returning Senior Kurtis Green agreed. He also played on the champion football team.

"We have a few All-Con-

ference players coming back this year as well as a few good J.V. players moving up. That will help us in becoming back-to-back District champs," said Green.

Junior Varsity baseball also had many returning players. With a winless season in '96, they had a lot to prove.

Coach Jim Ford, in his third year coaching the J.V., believed different strategies and being more aggressive was the key to a winning season.

"This year was much different than years past. We had quite a few players coming back, and this year we expected to win some ball games," Ford said.

*Design By: Kathy Yates  
Copy By: Jeff Douglas*



### PRACTICING FUNDAMENTALS

Junior Mat Peterson plays catch during the first week of baseball practice. So many players tried out for the team, that around 20 players had to be cut during tryouts.

*Photo By: Jeff Douglas*

### PLAY BALL

Practicing his swing, Kevin Hill, senior takes advantage of a warm day during the first week of practice. Hill said that he looks forward to baseball all year long.

*Photo By: Jeff Douglas*



### MEETING TO WIN

Members of the boys and girls swim team take time out after a meet to pose for a photo. Season goals were always in their minds during important meets, they said.

*Photo By: Jill Montgomery*



### SWIMMING STOCKINGS

Pantyhose, though not a part of Senior Rick Milone's regular wardrobe, come in handy for swim meets. Stockings helped with water resistance, said Milone.

*Photo By: Ashley Prater*



### GETTING IN SHAPE

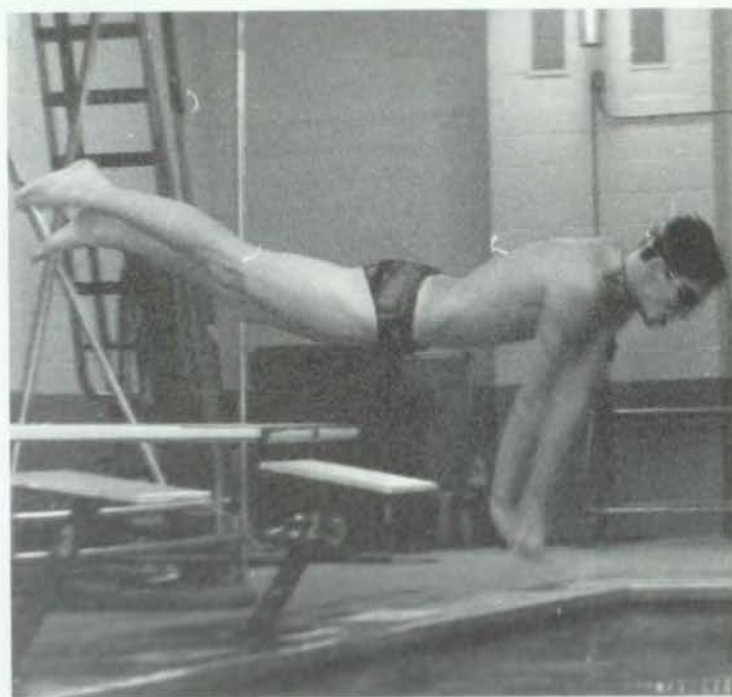
The first week of practice for the Girls' Swim Team resulted in fatigue and sore muscles. Swim team members swam several hundred yards that week.

*Photo By: Jill Montgomery*

### CAPTIONS ARE COOL!

Springing from the starting block, Senior Paul Lillis begins a strenuous stretch of laps. Milone was a member of the relay team that competed at the State Swim Meet in Columbia.

*Photo By: Alexa Vleisides*



### LEADER OF THE PACK

Coach Andy Hanch picks up kick boards after a practice. This season marked Hanch and Coach Danny Tipton's first year as swim coaches. Team members agreed that the dedication and enthusiasm of the coaches made up for their lack of coaching experience.

*Photo By: Jill Montgomery*



# TEAM UNITY

## TEAM MOTIVATED BY FRIENDS

The Boys' and Girls' Swim Teams worked hard to achieve their goals. They looked forward to their seasons with optimism and believed they could accomplish anything if they set their minds to it.

The boys' team set a goal to go to State in the 200 yard freestyle relay, and worked hard to reach that goal. They thrived on the thought of State competition and it motivated them throughout difficult practices.

"The season had a rocky start, but we never once doubted ourselves that we could go to State," said Senior Josh Gwilt.

Their hard work paid off and they qualified in one of the last meets of the season. After they reached that goal, they set a new one - to break the school record in that same event.

"State was for the best of

the best. When we got there, we decided to do our best, and we knew if we did that, we could then break our school record," said Senior Rick Milone.

Focusing on a goal allowed them to break the record, too. They swam a time of 1:34.99, going only three tenths of a second faster than the previous record.

The team, comprised of four seniors and two freshmen, also became good friends throughout the season. On Fridays, before big meets, they would often meet for dinner and sometimes go to the movies as well.

"We all went out and saw Star Wars together. I was really happy to be a part of a team where members cared so much for each other," said Freshman Jeff Peak.

Neil Corrison, also a freshman, agreed.

"Not only did I improve my times, but I also made a lot of great friendships with upperclassmen who helped me out the rest of the year," Corrison said.

The Boys' Swim Team was not the only one that believed in setting goals and working toward them. The girls followed in the boys' footsteps.

"We all became good friends during practice. We hoped to qualify a relay for State, and we looked forward to working for that with each other. We relied on each other for support and motivation. It was a lot of fun," said Junior Kim Grimes.

The Boys' and Girls' Swim Teams accomplished many things, including achieving their best times and qualifying for State. But above all, they made friendships that they will remember for a lifetime.

*Design and Copy By:  
Ashley Prater*

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## PRESSURE PLAYERS

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*"I can remember the day when I first started swimming. I just jumped in the water and swam. I swam a lot so that I could reach my goals. So much, in fact, that some people called me a swimming fool. But I didn't mind because I was going somewhere. I WAS SWIMMING!"*

*Senior Chris Howard*

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**Boys' Swim Team:** Paul Lillis, Rick Milone, Chris Howard, Josh Gwilt, Coach Danny Tipton



**Girls' Swim Team:** Row One: Pamela Bigelow, Mary Beth Doarn, Kristy Hillix, Fatheema Gonzales Row Two: Dana Bassore, Jessica Gidderman, Betsy Fry, Waketha Foreman, Wyketha Harrell, Coach Danny Tipton Row Three: Renee Betts, Crystal Gilliland, Kim Grimes, Gini Soldi, Manager Amy Johnson



# PRESSURE PLAYERS

*"Playing J.V. was a learning experience. I hope that the situations we faced as a squad will help to better prepare us for play at the higher levels."*

**Freshman  
Ananda Baucom**



**Junior Varsity Basketball Team:** Row One: Managers Amberly Wagner, Tyedia Godsy Row Two: Ananda Baucom, Amy Mitchell, Nichole Harstad, Wyketha Harrell, Munachim Uzomah, Lindsey Weaver, Melinda Grandi Row Three: Fatema Collins, Richa Frazier, Monica Jones, Elaina Carullo, Mahasan Taylor, Sharonda Walker

## SCORE BOARD

### Girls' Junior Varsity Basketball Team

Center	8	Pembroke Hills	56	L
Center	5	Blue Springs South	58	L
Center	11	Excelsior Springs	60	L
Center	23	Ruskin	27	L
Center	10	Raymore-Peculiar	65	L
Center	13	Raytown South	42	L
Center	13	Notre Dame DeSion	55	L
Center	10	Hickman Mills	42	L
Center	26	Belton	52	L
Center	16	Excelsior Springs	38	L
Center	20	Ruskin	26	L
Center	18	O'Hara	44	L
Center	4	Raymore Peculiar	39	L
Center	10	Raytown south	45	L
Center	17	Hickman Mills	30	L
Center	24	Belton	42	L

Record 0-16



### TAKE IT TO THE HOOP

Freshman Amanda Baggerly dribbles the ball down court on a break away.

*Photo By: Jill Montgomery*



### SINK IT

Taking the ball across the half-court line, Sophomore Sharonda Walker heads to the basket.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*





### BREAK THE PRESS

Wyketha Harrel, freshman, breaks her opponent's press to get into scoring position.

*Photo By Jill Montgomery*

# INEXPERIENCE YOUNG TEAM REBUILDS

The Junior Varsity Girls' Basketball Team faced a rebuilding year with several first-year ball players on the team.

According to J.V. Coach Leonard Fowler, the team had talent and depth, but was inexperienced. Their defense was tight, but the offense needed some polishing. Those were the issues that kept the team from achieving a successful record.

Their goal for the season was simply to win some games, but even that was unreachable for this young team.

"Our goal was to win some games, even though our team was young and inexperienced. We did not meet our goal for the season, due to our lack of experience play-

ing competitive basketball," Fowler said.

Key players who were the driving force of the team were Wyketha Harrel, Ananda Baucom, Amy Mitchell, Sharonda Walker, Munachim Uzomah and Nichole Harstad.

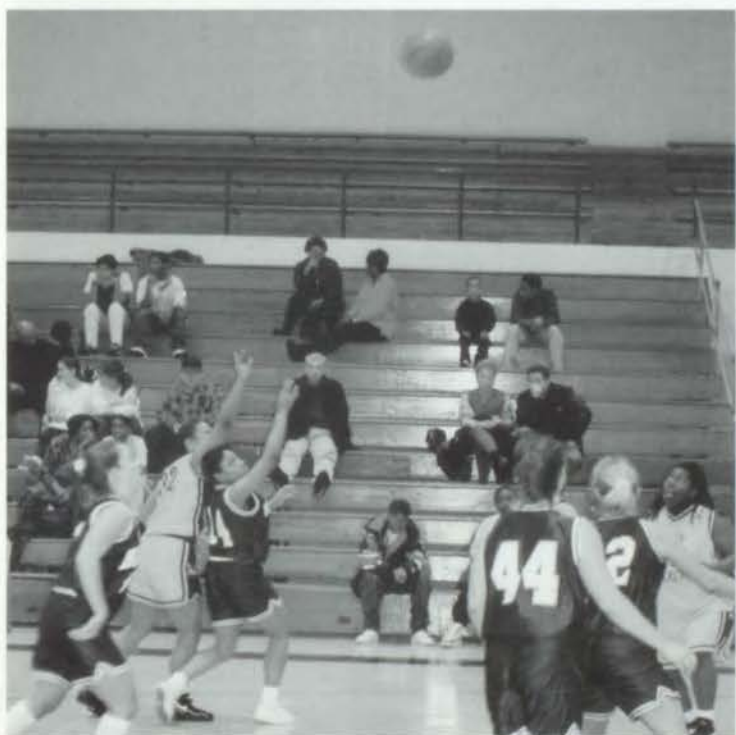
The team ended their season with a disappointing 16-0 record.

However, the new friends made and the bonds that were built between the teammates helped prepare them for another try at the game next season.

Even Fowler enjoyed the personal aspect of the game.

"I enjoyed getting to know the players on an individual basis," he said.

*Design and Copy By:  
Rebecca Piggee*



### IN YOUR FACE

Jumping over the defense, Freshman Amy Mitchell tosses in two points for the Jackets.

*Photo By: Jill Montgomery*

### TOUGH OFFENSE

Kiara Grant dribbles into Jacket territory, looking for an open teammate.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



### SERVICE!

Eddie Smith, senior, practices his serve during the first week of tennis season. Serving was one of the most difficult aspects of the game, and players spent hours perfecting theirs.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



## HIT THE COURT PLAYIN' TO WIN

A focus on the improving individual play was a driving force for the Boys' Tennis Team.

"I felt that if we tried our best individually, it would bring the play of the team as a whole up a few notches," said Senior Eric Lau.

Most members of the team agreed that competition was the time to lay it all on the line.

"Practice is important," said Ed Smith, senior. "But where you really get to know your strengths and weaknesses is on the court."

Coach Bill Freeman chal-

lenged players to strive for their best. Indeed, members of the team spent hours after school every day trying to improve their games. Some even took private lessons to help them achieve the next level of play. Others, like Rob Anderson, looked at the sport from a different angle.

"I didn't play just to win," Anderson said. "I just did it to help me relax."

No matter what reason they played, the Boys' Tennis Team played every match with intensity, giving the competition all they had.

*Design and Copy By:  
Josh Howard*



**Boys' Tennis Team: Row One:** Neil Blakemore, Rob Anderson, Eric Lau, Kenny Daniel **Row Two:** Eddie Smith, Brian Fuller, Graham Brown





## PRESSURE PLAYERS

"The toughest aspect of tennis is losing, because of the high expectations I have going into the season. Hopefully, I'll be able to fulfill my dreams and expectations by the end of this season."

Senior  
Brian Fuller

### MEGA BUCKS

Equipment for tennis does not come cheap. A tennis racket ran anywhere from \$20 to \$200. Team members were required to supply their own racket.

*Photo By: Jill Montgomery*

### HIT THE COURT

Neil Blakemore, senior, practices his forehand. Practice was the key to being prepared for a tough match.

*Photo By: Jill Montgomery*



### GETTING IN SHAPE

Sophomores Menachim Uzomah and Sharonda Walker flash bright smiles as they train for their first meet. Brutal practices prepared the runners for competition.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*

### TRAINING TO WIN

Freshman Becky Foshee runs around the track during the first week of track practice. Sore muscles and fatigue were common ailments among the runners that week.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



## PRESSURE PLAYERS

*"My goals are to have a good season, finish out high school on a good note and hopefully qualify for state."*

*Senior Paul Lillis*



### FOLLOWING THROUGH

Driving for par on the 14th hole, Senior Brian Fuller works on his swing during the first week of practice.

*Photo By: Jill Montgomery*

### TALK IT OVER

Seniors Jason Crane and Brian Fuller discuss their par on the last hole. Golf, they said, required much thought.

*Photo By: Jill Montgomery*





# SETTING LOFTY GOALS

## TEAMS LOOK FOR SUCCESS

There was no putting around for the golf or track teams this season. Both teams started the season with hard work and effort in hopes of having a good record reflecting their success. The track team began with three weeks of intensive hard-core training. For many, this was the most challenging part of the season.

"The first three weeks are the worst because it's hard getting in shape after doing nothing all winter," said Senior Courtney May.

Other runners went the extra mile and made track a year-round sport.

"I ran during the winter so that when the spring came, I

was already ahead of everyone else," said Freshman Becky Foshee.

Other runners focused on the lighter side of the sport.

"I enjoy the meets because they give me a chance to be with friends and do my best," said Junior Heath Norton.

The track team was coached by Dave Bassore, Greg Lang, Kateri Watters and George Green. Bassore was the head coach. They wanted the best out of the runners, but did not ask for too much.

"My goal for the team is to have a good season," Bassore said.

A good season had different meanings to these athletes.

"For now, a good season to

me would be building my upper-body strength," said Sophomore Amy Kearney.

"I want to return to State," said Senior Ivan Masterson, who was a member of a relay team which qualified for the '96 State Track Meet.

On a different track, the golf team swung into the season with hopes of success.

"Golf is a sport where you can get out on the course, relax, and have fun at the same time," said Senior Brian Fuller.

Season goals varied for each athlete.

"I just want to have a lot of fun, improve my score and play on some nice courses," said Senior Jason Crane.

Junior Jason Mensing had a different goal in mind.

"My goal for the season is to keep my composure. Golf is more mental than physical," he said.

The overall goal of the team seemed to be just to have a good season.

"My goals are to have a good season, finish out high school on a good note and qualify for State," said Senior Paul Lillis.

Both the track and golf teams worked to achieve success with a lot of hard work and every once in a while, a stroke of luck.

*Design and Copy By:  
Rebecca Piggee*



**Golf Team:** Row One: Graig Robison, Jeff Hill, Scott Reaves, Dan Pemberton  
Row Two: Jason Mensing, Rick Milone, Brian Fuller, Jason Crane, Paul Lillis



**1997 Boys and Girls  
Track Team**



## GOOFIN' AROUND

Sophomore Emily Walsh takes time out of practice to play around. Soccer practice was intense, according to players, so players often took advantage of any time to relax.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*

# KICKIN' IT NEW SEASON, NEW GOALS

The Girls' Soccer Team anticipated a successful 1997 season.

Their first game came on March 27 against William Chrisman. To arrive at game day prepared for competition, soccer players had to learn new ways to practice and play. Like several other Center teams, the soccer team had a new head coach, Chuck Duske, who brought with him fresh enthusiasm and new ideas.

Players looked forward to a fresh point of view for the team.

"I feel that we will have a much stronger team with our new coach, focusing on team defense," said Junior Melanie Blando.

New team members joined

the veterans from the last season to unite and play as an aggressive, unified team.

Seniors Kristy Wells and Sarah Weilert were returning starters from the '96 season. Both possessed a positive attitudes about the team and season.

"I think that this year's team will be a great success," said Wells, senior. "I think the Yellowjackets are hoping to go to Districts to compete. The coaches will see major changes in this year's team," she said.

Asst. Coach Ed Fritz agreed, "We have a lot of returning girls who have improved and seem committed. This will hopefully bring forth more winnings," Fritz

*Design By: Heidi Hamilton-Brake  
Copy By: Marissa Wash*



## WAITING AROUND

Junior Brandi Cason waits for instruction from Coach Dusky. Soccer practices were filled with hours of conditioning and perfecting ball-handling skills.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*





### PRACTICING HARD

Lindsay Weaver, freshman, dribbles the ball around the practice field. Players spent a lot of time at the beginning of the season working on dribbling and other soccer fundamentals.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*

### CELEBRATING

Sophomore Molly Gillespie does a dance after scoring a goal during a practice. Taking a minute for fun was enjoyed by the players who practiced hard every day until 4:30.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



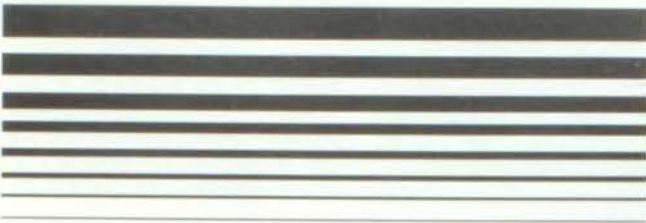
**Girls' Soccer Team:** Row One: Katie Boyd, Sarah London, Brandi Cason, Lauren Stewart, Melanie Blando, Ashley Prater, Stephanie Nichols, Jill Montgomery Row Two: Tina Watts, Sara Weilert, Ginger Damron, Leanna Carpenter, Samantha Florez, Lindsay Weaver, Kristy Wells, Angela Kartsonis, Coach Chuck Duske Row Three: Manager Mike Canada, Emily Walsh, Mollie Gillespie, Mahasena Taylor, Melinda Grandi, Monica Shipman, Gail Nerman

## PRESSURE PLAYERS

"The most difficult part of soccer is that you have to know what the other team is thinking."

Junior  
Heather Johnson





### BOMB THREATS

Students load on the buses from the north parking lot during one of three bomb threats the school received in January. Buses took students to the middle school until the school was deemed safe by police.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



### HUNGER PAINS

Waking up from a pre-lunch dream, Ashley Prater, junior, finds herself chewing on Senior Josh Howard's shirt. Prater, who was embarrassed by the incident, declined to comment. Many students felt the hour before lunch seemed to drag on longer than other hours.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



### MILK, IT DOES A BODY GOOD

Jason Mensing, junior, finishes his milk quickly before the lunch bell rings. Many students who found that the early mornings left little time for breakfast, felt that lunch was an important part of the day.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*

### KILLIN' TIME

Seniors Crystal Koenig and Betsy Fry gather with fellow classmates in the administration building during a bomb threat. Students had to find their own source of entertainment to pass the time until it was safe to reenter the building.

*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*



# STOP THE PRESSES

As the end of the year approached, students began to look back on the year, assessing their highs and lows. Memories of friendship, grades, parties, teachers and many activities would stay with them for life.

According to Senior Chris Howard, the one thing that would always stick out in his mind was the Friday-night games.

"I enjoyed watching the team and hanging out with my friends," said Howard.

Sophomore Pamela Bigelow also made memories.

"I will always remember cheerleading my freshman year. It took a lot of time, but it was fun," said Bigelow.

According to Freshman Amy Mitchell, the first day of school was most memorable.

"On the first day of school it was hard for me to find someplace to sit in the lunch room. I was scared because I did not know anyone," said Mitchell.

Junior Rustin Steward said in retrospect, he would like to be able to make some changes in his past.

"As I look back on my younger years, I wish I had practiced basketball more often so that I would be better now," he said.

Junior Lisa Sorensen also had one regret.

"I wish I had done better in school my freshman year," she said.

Other students found that they regreted nothing, but hoped to make improvements.

"I hope to end my year on the honor roll," said Sophomore Menulique Foremen.



## ARTISTIC ABILITIES SHINE THROUGH

Junior Lea Corrison concentrates on her ceramics project as she spins it on the wheel. Many steps were involved in the process of completing a ceramics project. The wheel was the first. Ceramics was a class many students enjoyed because it presented the opportunity to be creative.

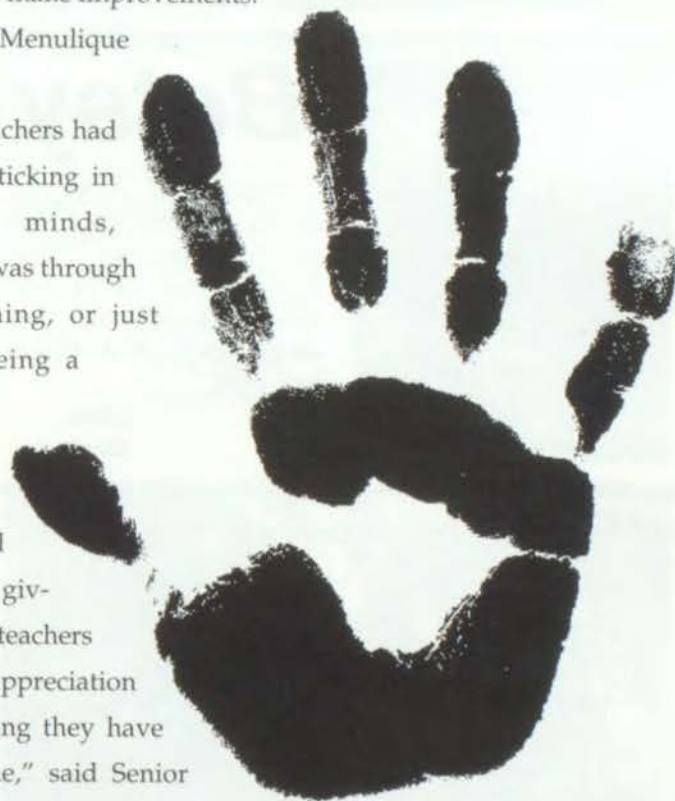
*Photo By: Lisa Sorensen*

Some teachers had a way of sticking in students' minds, whether it was through their teaching, or just through being a friend.

"I would like to end my year by giving all of my teachers a token of appreciation for everything they have done for me," said Senior Monique Jones.

All in all, the high-school experience made an impression on everyone.

*Design By: Heidi Hamilton-Brake  
Copy By: Danience Moreland*





Angela Bigelow



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Angela,  
As you near the end of your high school years, I want you to know how proud you have made me. You have grown into a lovely young adult. You will never forget your high school memories- the good and the not-so-good. All will prepare you for college and your future. I have faith you will achieve your goals. Congratulations!

All my Love,  
Mom



## Betsy

Congratulations! As you go off into your new life, I wish you much happiness. I have enjoyed your nerve and independence. You are always looking at life from a new angle.

Love,  
Mom

## Eric

We are proud of all your accomplishments. Congratulations as you graduate. May you always keep your kind heart and sincere interest in life. God Bless you!

Love,  
Mom, Dad  
and Amanda



Eric Lau



Betsy Fry

## BEST ALL-AROUND SENIORS

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Nikki Morrow, Madison Smart and Mubeena Siddiqi





## Jessica

You are a wonderful gift. Your spirit and determination will take you far. We celebrate our memories with you and share your dreams for the future. May God bless you.

**We love you!**

Love,  
Mom, Dad  
and Monica



Jessica Brooks

## Josh

You've been a blessing to us since the day you were born. Never stop asking questions and giving your best.

Love,  
Mom, Dad and Jake

*"Commit to the Lord whatever you do and your plans will succeed." • Proverbs 16:3*



Josh Howard



Missie Brittain

## MISSIE

We hope that the future brings you as much happiness as you've brought us. Remember, we love you and will always be there for you.

Love,  
Mom, Dad  
and Christie

## Mubeena

God blessed us with a beautiful baby girl. With all that you have accomplished, you never cease to amaze us. May your life be filled with joy and happiness.

Love always,  
Your Family



Mubeena Siddiqi

### Robert Anderson Class of 1997!

Congratulations, son! Your family loves you and supports you always. May your future dreams come true.

Love,  
Mom, Dad and John



Robert Anderson

### PHATTEST Ride



Josh Gwilt and Kristy Wells

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# A•L•E•X•A



In all that you do,  
may there be peace  
and love in your  
heart and may God  
guide your every  
step.

BCBGLYS,  
Dad, Mom, and  
Yiayia Matilda



Alexa Vleisides

We've come a long  
way Alexa. Enjoy  
the experience of  
life. Now it's your  
turn to travel the  
world!

BCBGLYS,  
Gabriel and Sonny



## Angel Eyes

*Rachel Marie Briner*

Congratulations on your  
1997 graduation from  
high school!!! Only  
yesterday Daddy  
taught you your first  
step in your baby  
shoe mocassins, and  
now you are taking  
your first steps in the  
walk of life. You've  
done a fantastic job!  
Rock on! Lock &  
Load!  
Always Our Love,  
Your Proud Parents



Rachel Briner

**N**umber One  
In Our Life  
**E**ntertaining • "Our Ace  
Ventura"  
**I**ncredible Boy •  
Incredible Young Man  
**L**ove You  
"Baby Pumpkin"

Love, Mom, Diane, Aunt Sharbear, Joe,  
Jenny and Steph

*You Make Us All Proud!*



Neil Blakemore

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FAME

**Biggest Partiers**



GRAHAM BROWN AND LASONIA FORD







# Crystal

**Bubbalah**  
1979 to 1997

The time has flown by. Go forth to meet the challenges life has set for you. Your future is in your hands- make the most of it. We are very proud of you and your accomplishments.

Love,  
Mom, Dad,  
and  
Bandaid



Crystal Koenig

# KRISTY



Krystal Light,  
We are very proud of all you have accomplished through your first seventeen years. We pray that you will continue to excel in all that you do. Never lose the values that have made you so unique. Remember, Jesus Loves You and So Do We.

Love  
Mom, Dad  
and Kim '94

P.S. Kim says  
**NO WHAMMIES!**

Kristy Hillix



# APRIL

We can't believe it's your senior year. You were such a cute little girl! Remember to always "Look on the Bright Side." Always believe in yourself, because we will always believe in you.

Love,  
Mom and Dad

April Demasters

# Amy

You have turned out to be even more special than your Dad and I had hoped. Thanks for being the best and doing your best!

Love,  
Mom, Dad, Ryan  
Michael, and Laura



Amy Kearney

## Most Likely To Succeed



Madison Smart and Mubeena Siddiqi

# SENIOR HALL OF FAME



Eddie Smith

# EDDIE

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR GRADUATION. YOU HAVE ENRICHED OUR LIVES WITH YOUR LAUGHTER, JOYFUL SPIRIT AND LOVE OF MUSIC. WE ARE VERY PROUD OF YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND THE PERSON YOU ARE BECOMING.

Much Love,  
Mom, Dad and Phillip





Graham Brown

# Graham

Dear Graham,  
We know you will run into  
the future with the same  
enthusiasm and energy  
you've always had. We  
Love You Very Much!

Love,  
Mom and Dad

**J  
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**We have always been  
proud of you. We are  
proud of you now. We  
will always be proud  
of you!**

**Our Love,  
Dad and Mom**



Joe Craig

# MADISON

Enhorabuena! Le damos  
las gracias a Dios por ti.  
Te queremos,  
Mom, Dad  
and Lori Anne



Madison Smart

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**MOST FUN TO BE AROUND**



Jessica Brooks and Neil Blakemore





**Peter • Mazzio • Butch Boy**

All these years you've brought great joy  
 From funny jokes to fix-it-man.  
 You've broken bones like no one can  
 From buzz on head to laugh in eye  
 You've been our SUPER guy!  
 Love you son  
 Love you brother  
 Wouldn't trade for any other

Pete Gillespie

**M  
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E**

Congratulations Mike!  
 We are all proud of you.  
 You have done a great  
 job!! Love,  
 Mom and Dad



Mike Weiland

**Kristen**

Congratulations! You are a joy and delight to us. Our love  
 will always be with you as you continue to achieve your  
 goals and follow your dreams.

Love,  
 Mom, Dad, Tod,  
 Melissa, Scott, Brent



Kristen Reaves

— **PAUL** —  
 CONGRATULATIONS! WE ARE  
 SO PROUD OF YOU. OUR  
 PRAYERS, LOVE AND SUPPORT  
 ARE WITH YOU, ALWAYS. GOD  
 BLESS YOU!

MOM AND DAD



Paul Lillis

BRAINIEST



PETE GILLESPIE AND JASMINE GRIFFITH

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These comments from your first-grade teacher pretty much say it all. You are a very well-rounded young man and we couldn't be prouder. Keep up the excellent work in all you strive to do.

Love,  
Dad and Jo



**Progress Report  
First Grade  
1985-86**

Name Kevin Hill

Mathematics.....	E
Spelling.....	E
Reading.....	E
Science.....	E
Physical Education.....	E
Social Studies.....	E

**Teacher Comments:**

**First Quarter** • "An excellent student and a delightful child."

**Second Quarter** • "Please try to read and report on some books. A super child and student. I wish I could keep him forever!"

**Third Quarter** • "Twenty five books reported in one quarter! I am so proud of this guy! He's going to be the U.S. President!"

**Fourth Quarter** • "Kevin is the most industrious student I've ever had. Kevin is promoted to second grade for the 1986-87 school year (and I will miss him!)"



Kevin Hill



# A Andrew

From, a very early age, we knew you looked at life differently; with a special vision and a power to accomplish great things. Use that power and you can be whatever you wish. You truly are a wonderful human being and you'll always be "super" to us.

Love,  
Mom, Athena, Dad,  
Linda and Ben



Andrew Vleisides

We're really proud of you. Keep going strong and enjoy college. It's bound to be a memorable experience!!! Stay focused and believe in yourself. Congratulations!

We Love You,  
Mom and Joe

# K U R T I S



Kurtis Green

## Heidi Jo Jo BUGGA BOO BOO BCP

YOU ARE A GENUINE gift FROM God!  
Follow WHEREVER he leads you.  
We ARE SO PROUD!

LOVE,  
The Fan Club  
MOM, PAUL, HEATHER, JOEY,  
HAILEY, BECKY, STEVE AND  
BEN



Heidi Hamilton-Brake



Arlene Roberts

# Arlene

You're a family's dream come true. Your success will be never-ending because you have always followed your heart and that shining star. Always be proud of yourself.

Love Always,  
Your mother, Bubbie and  
Relatives



Dana Battin

# Dana

You started out scooting, went to walking and now you are running. Keep tracking your dreams, and follow your heart. You will have many victories on your side.

Love,  
Mom and Sheila

## Most Shy



DANA BATTIN AND BRIAN FULLER

# S E N I O R H A L L O F F A M E





Crystal Matthews

On the very first day you were born, you expressed an independence that I hope you will carry with you the rest of your life. Don't let anything or anyone take this away from you. Stay focused on what you need to do to help you lead a healthy and happy life. Stay the good person that you are with God in your life, and you will always be blessed. May you always be blessed with all the good things in life that will keep you with a strong and positive mind. Congratulations on all you have strived for and achieved.

Your mother,  
Anita Matthews

Crystal



**Kylene**

You were a beautiful baby and you have become a beautiful young lady. We are so proud of your accomplishments. Keep your chin up and keep smiling.

Love,  
Mom and Dad



Kylene Batiz

**Chris**

We are proud of who you are. You are an awesome son! Your quiet faith in God is inspiring, and our prayers are with you wherever you are.

Love,  
Mom and Dad



Chris Howard

SENIOR  
HALL  
OF  
FAME

TEACHERS' PETS



Rick Milone AND ANGELA Bigelow



How do we say goodbye to our little girl who is no longer our little girl. For **Nikki** seven years through braces, boys and high heels, we have watched you grow into someone special – someone who we are so very proud of. You have our love and best always.

Momma and Daddy



Nikki Morrow



### Billee T. (Baby Bill) Runnels

Every journey begins with the first step. You have taken that step and begun the journey. As you travel through Life, Remember God. Remember Our Love, Remember Who You Are.

Love,  
Mom & Dad, A,D,C,  
and Grandparents

Billee Runnels



Clint Gaither

**Clint**

God blessed us and brought joy into our lives with you. Here's to a future as bright as you are.

Love,  
Mom and Dad

*You'll know how much we love you only when you have a child yourself. Congratulations and thanks for being a wonderful daughter.*  
Love,  
Mom and Dad

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Melissa Baker

### BEST THESPIANS



ROSS WISEMAN AND AMY KEARNEY

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LynShaunte Hoskins

### LynShaunte

At the age of four months, she was a sweet little girl. Now she's becoming a grown young lady, a senior to be exact. A 1997 graduate, LynShaunte Hoskins, the Hot Stepper. You go girl!

We love you!  
Mom, Dad and the Family





Congratulations! I am so proud of you. You have accomplished so much on your journey from Red Bridge Elementary, to this day. We share memories of all the good times. Jeffery, you have achieved success! Tomorrow is yours! Dream! Hope! Imagine! Go forth and make this a better world for all of us. Your Dad and I are with you in spirit, forever. God bless you always.

Love, Mom

**J  
E  
F  
F**



Jeff Landes



**K  
O  
R  
I**



Kori Crawford

You are not our little girl anymore. You are all grown up. We hope you get everything you ever wanted.

Love,  
Mom, David,  
Chrissy and Pat

**Brian**

*Congratulations!*

We are so proud of you. Always believe in yourself and what you can do.

Love,  
Mom and Dad



Brian King

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E**

**BEST DRESSED**



KEVIN Hill AND HEIDI HAMILTON-BRAKE







**K  
A  
T  
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Y**

We are so proud of the little girl we adopted when she was four years old. You have grown into a beautiful young Christian woman. You have a great attitude and personality. You love Jesus and other people. Congratulations on your graduation from Center and your new job. We love you!

Love,  
Dad and Mom (Rice)

Kathy Rice



**J  
A  
S  
O  
N**

Jay,  
The years have passed too quickly. Seems like we have slept and have awakened only to find you grown into a man. We are proud of you. Good luck and Best Wishes for a bright future. Know that we are always here for you.

Always,  
Mom and Dad

Jason Crane

**D  
A  
T  
H  
A  
N**



Dathan Wilson

Dear Son,  
You have become a fine young black man. Continue to put the Lord first in your life, and you will reach whatever goal you set. I'm so proud of you!!

Love,  
Mom

**Brian**

You have made us very proud of all your accomplishments. We know you will continue to succeed in everything you do.

Love,  
Mom, Dad  
and Jason



Brian Fuller

Most Reliable



REBECCA PIGGEE AND CHRIS HOWARD

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Chris Berry

**CHRIS**

We are so proud of you. We love you very much.

Love,  
Mom and Dad



Dear Ricky,  
 Congratulations! We are so proud of you. There are not enough words to express how much you mean to us. We wish you all the happiness in the world as you follow your dreams in life. We know that you will achieve the goals you have set for yourself. You will be deeply missed as you go off to college. As your mom, I can't promise you I won't cry when you leave. We want you to know how much your family loves you. You are the joy of our hearts.

All Our Love,  
 Dad, Mom, John and Gina

# Rick



Rick Milone

Josh Gwilt



# Josh

Never give up your dreams. May you experience as much joy in life as you have given us. We are very proud of the person you have become.

We love you!  
 Dad, Mom and Jacob

# James

We are so proud of all your achievements. American History and Government Award, Who's Who Among American High School Students for two consecutive years and Teen Achievers of Missouri Achievement Award. Congratulations and we love you!  
 Mom and Dad



James Amerison

GORGEOUS SMILE

# SENIOR HALL OF FAME



REBECCA PIQGEE AND VINCE HARRIS





# Ross

You were a wonderful surprise and have become a precious blessing! You've worked steadily to reach this special time of life. Continue to claim *Psalms 130: 3-4*. Maintain your balance, focus and success as promised and *Colossians 3: 23-24* will be yours.

We love you lots!  
Mom, Dad and Matt



Ross Wiseman

# Rebecca

Dear Daughter,  
I took my wish list to God. I said, "Give Rebecca intelligence, grace and a poetic and philosophical bent. Give her wisdom, steadfastness, a love of God, compassionate eyes and a healthy stride. Give her exquisite taste."

A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches.  
*Proverbs 22:1.*



Rebecca Piggee



# K I M B E R L Y

Kimberly Miniffee



Congratulations!  
Nee Cee, the day you've been anxiously awaiting has finally arrived and now my little girl goes off into the world. I'm so proud of you and wish you much success in all of your future endeavors.

Love,  
Mom and Bishop



# Shana

**You are the joy of our lives. I am amazed by your courage and strength.**

**You can do whatever you want to do in life.**  
**Amberly, Stephanie,  
Anthony and the rest  
of the team!**

Shana Love



Most Athletic


SENIOR  
HALL OF FAME



KURIIS GREEN AND MISSIE BRITAIN

Nicest Eyes


SENIOR  
HALL OF FAME



DEANDRA PERKINS AND RON FRANKLIN

Most Involved

SENIOR  
HALL OF FAME



ERIC BOYD AND SHANA LOVE

Most Likely To Hold Political Office

SENIOR  
HALL OF FAME



RICK MILONE AND SHANA LOVE

Most Chauvenistic


SENIOR  
HALL OF FAME



ETHAN JORDAN AND MISSIE BRITAIN

Most Outgoing

SENIOR  
HALL OF FAME



DATHAN WILSON, JESSICA BROOKS AND KEVIN HILL

Best Musicians

SENIOR  
HALL OF FAME



ANGELA MAYS AND ETHAN JORDAN

Class Clowns

SENIOR  
HALL OF FAME



LATOYA WELLS AND JOSH HOWARD (NOT PICT. JENISE JONES)



Most Buff



Mike Weiland AND Alice Harriman

SENIOR  
HALL OF FAME

Best Looking



Kevin Hill AND Latoya Wells

SENIOR  
HALL OF FAME

Friendliest



Josh Patterson AND Dana Atty

SENIOR  
HALL OF FAME

Most Spirited



Paul Lillis AND Kristy Hillix

SENIOR  
HALL OF FAME

Biggest Flirts



Ron Franklin AND Angela Bigelow

SENIOR  
HALL OF FAME

Most Talkative



Jimmie Druen AND Angela Bigelow

SENIOR  
HALL OF FAME

Best Personalities



Eddie Smith AND Alexa Vleisides

SENIOR  
HALL OF FAME

Best Dancers



Joe Byers AND Erica Hood (NOT PICTURED)

SENIOR  
HALL OF FAME





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*We're Going*  
**BOWLING!**

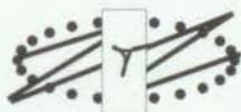
**1997**  
*Alamo Bowl*

**Go Marching**  
**Yellowjackets!!!**

*from*  
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Seniors Jasmine Griffith, Sonya Baughman and Sara Weilert along with Junior Tiffany Minx, play with pots and pans during an Amnesty trip to St. Louis.

Photo By: Lisa Sorensen



Freshman Carrie Howard plays her saxophone at a basketball game to boost spirit. This was one of the various activities, in addition to parades and concerts, required of band members.

Photo By: Lisa Sorensen



A prayer around the flag pole helps the day start off right. Many students joined a student-sponsored Bible study, called Vox Dei.

Photo By: Lisa Sorensen



# Making an Impression

Dorks play at the Boone Picnic. Dorks, very popular with the students, performed at many school functions.

Photo By: Jill Montgomery



As the school days came and went, many lasting impressions were left.

Students started off the year with anticipation and excitement as well as new members of the administration. New faces brought about changes in school policy, which in turn brought about controversy. Video cameras were added to the halls in hopes of curbing undesirable activities. A new tardy policy was also put into effect. Students were required to have their ID cards with them at all times or run the risk of receiving a detention. Most students agreed that while the rules made things more difficult, they were a necessity.

Many sports excelled more than they had expected, thereby gaining community involvement and support. Numerous teams and individuals achieved high honors at the State level of competition.

An unseasonable ice storm in October left many Kansas City residents out in the cold, as did a number of empty bomb threats during the winter months. The latter left teachers and administrators angry and looking for answers.

"I didn't mind them for a while, but when it got really cold, they really started to suck," commented senior Rick Milone.

In addition to local happenings, many situations left their impression on the minds of those around the world. The incumbent Bill Clinton soundly defeated Republican hopeful Bob Dole of Kansas in the Presidential elections held in November, with such issues as balancing the nation's budget, to 'a woman's right to choose' as top debate topics. Many who voted simply felt that Dole was too uptight and not himself during the debates.

"It looked like he was trying too hard to impress the younger generation. He thought it would make him look more in touch, but it just made him look fake," said Senior Josh Gwilt.

The bomb that went off in the Olympic Park Pavilion in Atlanta this summer also made international headlines, as did the O.J. Simpson trial in which Simpson was found 'not guilty' on all counts. Christian Nord, junior reflected on his feelings when he heard the final decision.

"I was slightly surprised at the way it turned out, but I guess it was for the best."

In the world of sports and celebrities, the headline grabbers were Dennis Rodman, bad boy of the Chicago Bulls, who's on court antics included an eleven game suspension for kicking a court-side cameraman in the crotch, and a consistent taunting of referees and fans alike, as well as pop sensation Madonna and the ever-bizarre Michael Jackson, both of which had their first children.

The music industry was hit hard by the tragic deaths of rappers Tupac "2-Pac" Shakur of the California-based Death Row Records and "The Notorious B.I.G.," Biggie Smalls, of Bad Boy Entertainment, a record label who had its roots in New York. Both were gunned down unexpectedly at two separate times following award presentations. The gossip mill also churned with rumors of the group Van Halen getting back together with their original front man, David Lee Roth.

All in all, as the school year drew to a close, students cleaned out their lockers, said their good-byes, and found that **they** had left their own impression upon their teachers, their peers, as well as the school and the world around them. They looked back at where they had been, then looked forward, ready to face the world with fresh, new ideas, and a bright

Design By:  
Heidi Hamilton-Brake

Copy By:  
Josh Howard and Jessica Brooks



# Making An IMPRESSION

This is the place where we will tell you everything you never wanted to know about this yearbook. First, a special thank you to all the people who worked on this book to make it possible. Thank you to those who took extra time after school or during other classes to come in the journalism room to work on pages. Thank you to all the teachers for their patience with me and the yearbook staff. We were learning, and I know we stepped on some toes, but we learned from mistakes.

With the combination of ideas from Walsworth artist, along with Co-Editors Jessica Brooks and Josh Howard and our Design Editor Heidi Hamilton-Brake, we were able to create a unique cover to go along with our theme. The cover is Jet Black with Hot Foil 900 Brite silver art and copy.

The theme was decided upon by a staff consensus. Three hundred books were ordered. The endsheets were designed to coordinate with the cover, by Kathy Yates, advisor.

Fonts used in the book were Palatino, Cookie, Brush Script, Rage, Helvetica, Friz, Bodoni, Jot, and Pare. Formula colors that we used include Buttercup F121, Teal F327, Royal F287 and Periwinkle F264. Formula Texture Color Abstract F1800 was placed behind all senior portraits.

The paper used was Monarch Gloss B with Smyth Sewn binding.

Brooks spent hours and hours in the journalism room working on the book. Her dedication was commendable. Even the administration was beginning to wonder if Yates and Brooks lived in Room 16. Brooks designed all the senior ad pages, and corrected all proofs. She picked up the slack when others failed to meet expectations. Heidi Hamilton-Brake designed all of the templates for each section of the book. Mini themes for each section were agreed upon by the staff as a whole. Josh Howard worked on indexing all of the pages.

Lisa Sorensen, photo editor, and Jill Montgomery took most of the yearbook photos. They attended many sporting events and other activities in order to provide the book with quality photos.

Danience Moreland, copy editor, spent a lot of time in Room 16 as well. She wrote many of the stories in the book and did a lot of the "grunt work" that needed done. Ashley Prater and Lauren Stewart also helped a lot - especially since they were the only two on staff to meet every deadline!

Thank you to those who donated photos. Thank you to our Walsworth John Kelly who replaced Johnna Tupper during the school year. A special thank you goes to the administration for being understanding when we needed to vent frustrations or ask for special favors. I know we have left out some who deserve a thank you. We just want to let all who helped know how much we appreciate them.

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